



The UP-TO-DATE football magazine

Saturday Jan. 22 1983 38p

match

WEEKLY

SKY BLUES REVIVAL

Special report on high-flying
Coventry City

'We're not
one-season
wonders'
says Swansea's

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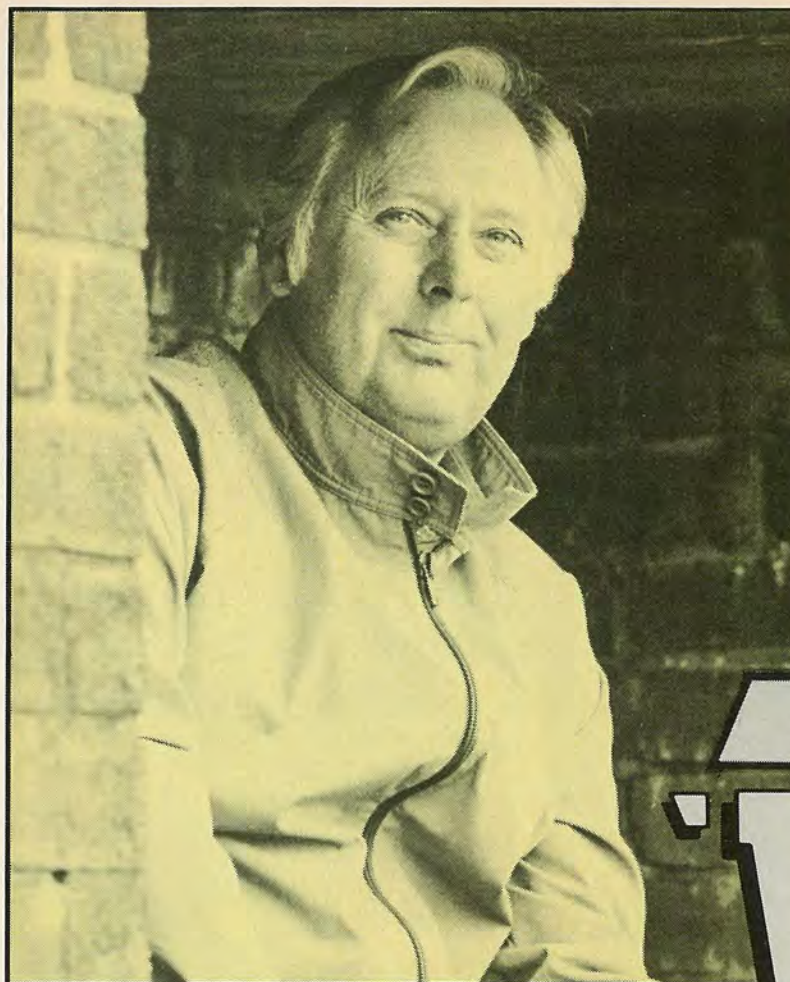
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McGRAIN**

'Celtic
—the early
years'



**LIVERPOOL'S GOAL
CHASE**
CAN 'SUPER
REDS' TOP
THE TON?



DERBY County's FA Cup heroes are backing their controversial manager Peter Taylor — despite his threats of a massive clear-out at the Baseball Ground.

Taylor has been critical of his struggling Second Division side ever since he took over two months ago — slamming some of the players as "Southern League" standard.

And even after the Rams' memorable FA Cup victory over Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest, he wasted no time in bringing them down to earth with more damaging remarks.

But as experienced central defender John McAlle reveals, the harsh criticism has served only to inspire the players and make them more determined to prove Taylor wrong.

The former Wolves star told 'Match': "All the players are 100 per cent behind Peter Taylor and his partner Roy McFarland."

"Peter has had some strong

"I WANT to start next season with a Second Division platform and it will surprise me if many of Saturday's team survive — maybe four at the most.

"They have put this club at the bottom of Division Two because they are not

things to say about the side, but what he has said is absolutely true. You can't argue with the man when you look at our position in the League.

"We have to accept the criticism and simply go out and show the management we are good enough by saving Derby from relegation.

"And I can guarantee that every man in the club will fight like hell to do that."

Derby have slumped to their lowest League position since the 1967/68 season when they finished

CUP HEROES DERBY

'WE'LL

Peter Taylor — he's threatened wholesale changes at Second Division strugglers Derby County.

match
WEEKLY

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FRONT COVER CAPTION:
Kenny Dalglish — can his
partnership with Ian Rush push
Liverpool to their 100-goal
target? See Page 8 and 9.

DERBY'S DECLINE

The table (below) shows Derby's decline as a football force — from the heights of their success as League Champions in 1975 to the depths of bottom place in Division Two (prior to the matches last weekend).

Season	Div	Position	Manager
1974-75	One	1st	Dave Mackay
1975-76	One	4th	Dave Mackay
1976-77	One	15th	Colin Murphy
1977-78	One	12th	Tommy Docherty
1978-79	One	19th	Tommy Docherty
1979-80	One	21st	Colin Addison
1980-81	Two	6th	Colin Addison
1981-82	Two	16th	John Newman
1982-83	Two	22nd	Peter Taylor

Oh yes! Former Forest star Archie Gemmill savours the moment he gave Derby the lead against his old team-mates as Gary Mills and Brian Attley run to congratulate him.



good enough. It's up to them to prove me wrong."

The words of Derby manager Peter Taylor, as printed in the Daily Mail, pull no punches.

And coming as they did in the wake of Derby's marvellous FA Cup victory

over local rivals Nottingham Forest, it may have seemed harsh.

But as 'Match' reporter Dave Smith discovered, it has only made the players even more determined to halt Derby's decline and bring back success.

18th in the Second Division. But the return of Taylor and former Rams favourite McFarland has instilled fresh hope at the club.

Now there is a strong belief at the Baseball Ground that the new managerial partnership can help Derby re-live the glory years of the 1970's when the Rams picked up two League Championship titles in three years.

As John says: "The players and the fans can sense that something is happening and the atmosphere at the club is incredible. It's a great

DEFY THE DROP...

FIGHT LIKE HELL

place to be at the moment.

"Peter is now getting the best out of his players and we are starting to believe in ourselves again.

"Before he came, some players were not performing to the standards they can do, but now everyone is responding to what he says and the side is playing well — far better than our League position indicates.

"There is no better person than Peter Taylor for getting the best out of players — his record over the years with Brian Clough proves that."

Taylor has been quoted recently as saying that two-thirds of his side would face the chop if he had the money to spend on new players.

And he has not been afraid to single out individuals he thinks do not come up to scratch. "He has told us in no uncertain terms what he expects from us," says John.

"And we know what will happen if he doesn't get it.

"He is only interested in players who give 100 per cent all the time and we realise if we do not do that, we are out. I for one will be fighting as hard as I can to stay at Derby."

John can already see light at the end of the tunnel. "All we need is a few more wins under our belts and we will go from strength to strength," he says.

"Every player is giving his all and, with that sort of commitment, we can avoid relegation and build on that next season.

"It won't be too long before the big time returns to Derby... with the management team we have now anything is possible."

Confidence is as high as it has been for some time following the 2-0 FA Cup Third Round destruction of Forest in front of a near-capacity Baseball Ground



Derby's Andy Hill in action against Forest's Scottish international John Robertson — he scored the second goal against Brian Clough's side.

crowd.

The tie pitched Taylor and Clough into head-on battle shortly after one of the most successful managerial partnerships was dissolved... and also gave midfield dynamo Archie Gemmill a chance to put one over on his former Forest team-mates.

And the 35-year-old player — who won two Championship winners medals with Derby — and one with Forest — capped an inspired performance with a goal which understandably gave him great pleasure.

The goal typified the midfielder's quick-thinking, as he explains: "We got a free kick on the edge of the box and Dave Swindlehurst was going to take it.

"I noticed that the goalkeeper was out of position so I told Dave to leave it and I hit a left foot shot which flew into the net.

"It was an exciting game to play in and I thought we dominated it from start to finish — we thoroughly deserved the victory," he says.

After the match, Peter Taylor allowed his players time to celebrate before warning them to forget about the FA Cup and start thinking about the next League

game.

And like his manager, Archie realises that, although the win over Forest was a great achievement and a confidence-booster, staying in the Second Division is the priority.

"All we are bothered about is avoiding relegation," says Archie. "The manager has made that quite clear and anything that happens in the FA Cup is a bonus.

"Players have got to keep their feet on the ground and concentrate on the League — that's the important thing."

Archie is full of praise for the Derby supporters who have kept faith in the side this season.

He says: "It was nice playing in front of a big crowd against Forest although we've been getting good gates ever since Peter Taylor arrived.

"For League matches, we have been getting over 13,000 people at the Baseball Ground and there are some First Division teams who do not get that many.

"It obviously helps the players when you know the fans are right behind you."

Those fans will play a big part as Derby battle against the drop into Division Three...

TWO-GOAL TERRY STRIKES IT RICH

SPUR OF THE MOMENT

TINY Terry Gibson may have saved his Spurs career with his brilliant two-goal show against Everton.

With less than a year to run on his contract at White Hart Lane, the 20-year-old striker was desperate to impress manager Keith Burkinshaw.

And when he was suddenly plucked from the reserves to play in the New Year fixture, Terry knew it was the ideal opportunity to prove his worth.

"It was really a make or break game for me," he says. "I had not played in the first team for four months and realised it was a vital chance to show what I could do."

"I didn't want to leave anything to chance. I knew I had to play well to stay in the team and hopefully persuade Spurs to keep me on."

He certainly gave Keith Burkinshaw plenty of food for thought with a dazzling display and both goals in the 2-1 home win over Everton.

But it was a game that Terry should never have played in, as he explains: "I have been carrying a cartilage injury for about eight weeks and should have gone into hospital on December 29 for an exploratory operation."

"Unfortunately, for him at least, the surgeon who was due to carry out the operation was involved in a road accident and it had to be cancelled. A few days later I was in the team."

Now Terry is hopeful that the operation won't be necessary.

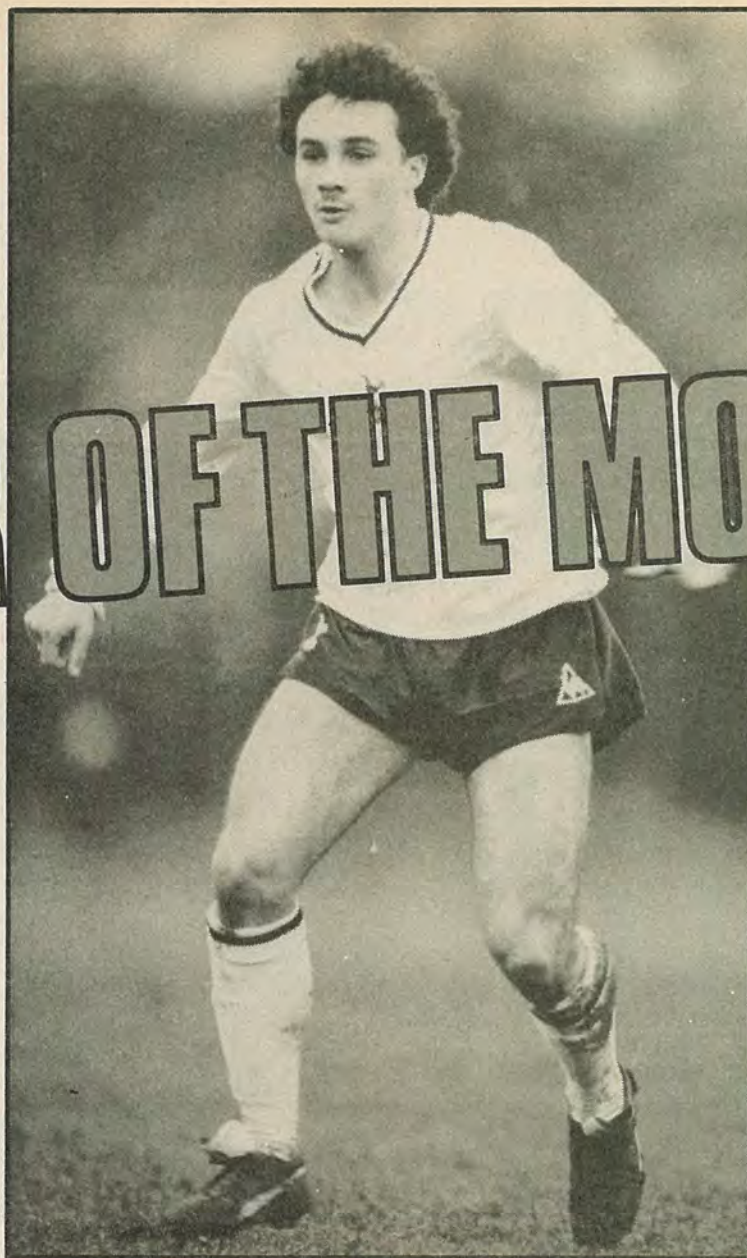
He says: "In the last two weeks my knee has improved no end and is causing me no more discomfort. I hope to be able to escape the operation — at least for the time being."

Terry admits that his first team call-up came right "out of the blue".

He was relaxing at home the day before the Everton game when he received a phone call to say he was in the squad.

And it wasn't until a couple of hours before the kick-off that Terry discovered he was actually in the side — replacing Garth Crooks who was ruled out by flu.

"I couldn't believe it," says Terry, who has played only a handful of first-team games since



Terry Gibson — should have gone into hospital for an operation.

his debut three years ago.

"I was more nervous than I was when I played my first game when I was 17. I suppose I was afraid it would be a one-off chance and if I didn't play well, things might not work out for me at Spurs."

But the nerves quickly disappeared and Terry was soon brimming with confidence after notching up his first League goal.

And it was one he remembers vividly. "Steve Archibald went down the right and pulled the ball back. A defender went to clear it but slipped and the ball ran to me," he says.

"I took a step back, hit it on the turn and in it went."

Terry's delight soon turned to despair and, for a while, he feared his big day was going to go horribly wrong.

He says: "Just after I scored the first, I had another chance but mis-kicked and Everton broke away and scored. I thought I had lost it for us but then I scored again. I was relieved, to say the least."

Despite giving his side victory with two well-taken goals, Terry was still not satisfied and believes he should have had a hat-trick.

And those were the sentiments

of manager Keith Burkinshaw who was obviously not prepared to let Terry's success go to his head.

"The boss had a go at me for the one I missed, but the players were great," he says.

Terry's performance must have impressed his manager, however, and he retained his place in the side for the 1-0 FA Cup Third Round victory over Southampton the following week.

But he was substituted in that

REPORTER Dave Smith talks to Terry Gibson, the Spurs striker who took his first team chance 'at the double'.



Ossi Ardiles — his return to Tottenham threatens Terry's chances of an extended run in the first team.

game and, with Ossi Ardiles back in the camp, Terry has his work cut out to earn his place in Spurs' star-studded line-up.

The young striker is under no illusions about the difficulty of that task.

He says: "It's not going to be easy and I realised after the game against Southampton that I could well go back in the reserves, but I'm only 20 and so time is on my side."

"I have been at Spurs since I was 14 and I really love the club. I just hope they renew my contract at the end of the year because I would hate to leave."

Below: Garth Crooks — his illness led to Terry's big break.



Where do we go from here? Reporter Anthony Hawkswell turns the spotlight on St Andrews and two players with the Birmingham 'blues' . . .

LANGAN GOES UP FOR SALE 'I CAN'T PLAY RON'S WAY'

BIRMINGHAM's record signing David Langan admitted this week: "I just can't play the Ron Saunders way."

That's why the Eire full-back has been put up for sale — along with last season's leading scorer Tony Evans — by the tough St Andrews boss.

David, a £350,000 signing from Derby two and a half years ago, says: "I've tried to adapt to his style but I've failed. It's in the best interests of myself and the club that I leave."

"The manager prefers the direct approach of playing long balls up front. My game has always been as an overlapping full-back and getting forward as often as possible."

"But even though I haven't been playing well it was still a shock when Ron Saunders called me into his office and told me I could go," admits David, who was the 'Blues' supporters' 'Player of the Year' last season.

The 25-year-old attributes his loss of form to a troublesome hamstring injury he picked up against Luton in October and which kept him out of the side for three months.

"That was the longest I've ever been out of action and, since returning against Spurs last month, I haven't really got my game together. I think it's a matter of confidence now."

David's problem's really exploded in the second game of the New Year when he was sent off at The Victoria Ground after a tackle on Stoke's Welsh international Mike Thomas.

"Ironically I've been sent off for a challenge on him before. That was when he was at Manchester United and I played for Derby. It was the same sort of situation — I just mistimed my tackle."

Now David, who still has 18 months of a contract to run at Birmingham, is resigned to playing out the rest of his days at St Andrews in the reserves.

"I can't see myself getting back into the team so I'm going to have to play my best in the reserves and hope that a club comes in for me."

"I don't know where my future lies. After all, money is tight and there are a lot of good players available at the moment. Obviously I'd like to stay in the First Division, but I don't mind where I go as long as I can start enjoying my football again."

"This has been the unhappiest season of my career. It's ever so disappointing — especially after doing so well last term."

"I haven't had any rows with the manager and I can't criticise the way he does things. His style has brought him a lot of success and I'm sure he'll do well for Birmingham."

"I don't think that 'Blues' will be relegated this season. They've got far too many good players to go down. I rate Kevin Dillon as the best midfielder I've played with."

"The centre of defence was a big problem for the manager when he arrived but he seems to have it solved now after buying Byron Stevenson from Leeds and Noel Blake from his old team Aston Villa."

"At £35,000 Noel was an absolute steal. I rate him very highly. He and Byron have buttoned up the back."

"It will be a big wrench to leave the

club because I love Birmingham and like living in the area but I've got to consider my future."

"Reserve football won't help my international career. Eire manager Eoin Hand won't be keen to pick a player who isn't playing in a first team," says David, who has picked up more than 15 caps since his debut against Turkey in 1978.

Another player who finds himself on Ron Saunders' unwanted list is striker Tony Evans and that's despite being the club's leading scorer.

He's got four goals this season even though he's played only a handful of games.

Tony explains: "The reason I'm on the list is because I don't fit into the manager's system. I'm not playing the way he wants me to."

"David Langan is the best right-back in the country and yet he's in the same position as me," says Tony, who started his League career with Blackpool.

"I'm a goalscorer and my record at St Andrews speaks for itself. I've scored 30 in just over 50 League games for the club."

"The manager wanted me to work harder and take up more defensive duties. I don't think that will help my game."

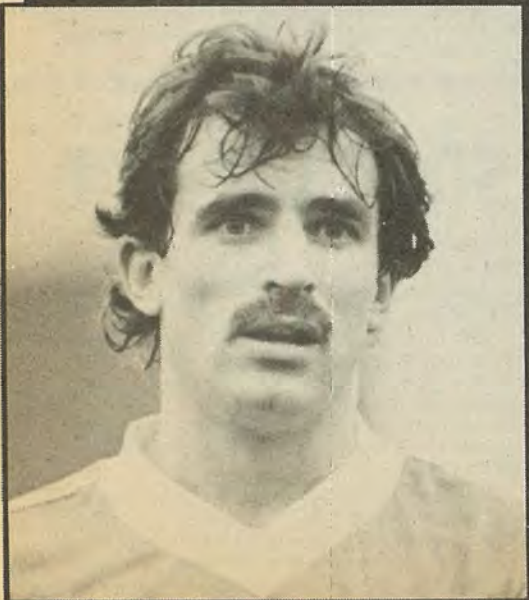
Tony joined the club from Cardiff for £60,000 in July 1979 and he says: "I'm disappointed that I don't fit in here but after three years at St Andrews it is perhaps the right time for a move."

"At my age I can't accept reserve team football. It's soul destroying. If I was 20 I'd think about staying and fighting for my place."

"I just hope that a club comes in for me quickly. I know I can still score goals in the First Division and would love to get the opportunity with another team."

David Langan — shocked when Ron Saunders said he could go but he admits: "It's been the unhappiest season of my career."

Below: Tony Evans — "I don't fit into the manager's system but I know I can still score goals in the First Division."





RHYTHM AND BLUES

SINGING the Blues — that's members of the Ipswich squad with heavy metal king Ian Gillan on stage at the town's Gaumont Theatre recently.

England striker Paul Mariner, a close friend of Ian, teamed up with colleagues Alan Brazil, Paul Cooper and Kevin O'Callaghan for a sing-a-long with the former Deep Purple member.

● **MIKE Walker's** amazing run in the Colchester goal has ended.

After 310 consecutive appearances, the former Watford 'keeper was forced out of the 4-1 home victory over Hartlepool through injury.

It was the first time Mike had missed a League match for the Fourth Division club since February 1977.

But it meant an opportunity for young reserve Alec Chamberlain who joined the club this season after being released by Ipswich.

LOANS TOP TON

LOAN transfers have already topped the century mark this season... more than twice the figure at the same stage last year. Leading the borrowers are Rochdale and Reading who have each had four players on loan this season.

NO MORE BIG GAMES FOR HUNTER

IT looks as though former England and Leeds iron defender Norman Hunter has finally hung up his boots.

After an absence of two years, the Barnsley player-manager made a return to League football against Grimsby, but limped out of the match after just twenty minutes.

And after Barnsley's 4-0 romp, Norman remarked: "That's me finished".

■ **FORMER** England and Ipswich defender Kevin Beattie is on the way back yet again from another knee operation.

Kevin, who had five operations on his right knee before quitting Ipswich last season, has now had a cartilage operation on his left knee. The injury was sustained while playing for his new club Middlesbrough.

WOLVES REVIVAL IS DOWN TO 'THE DOOG'

DEREK Dougan's arrival as chief executive of Wolves has been a major factor in lifting the gloom at Molineux, claims the club's central striker Mel Eves.

Says the 26-year-old: "It is very easy to talk to him, as it is with the other new directors, which helps to lift the barriers you sometimes get at clubs. Certainly, there was a definite barrier between players and directors last year."

"New manager Graham Hawkins has also done a lot to help to lift that gloom which resulted in our relegation. This year, though, everybody seems to be united towards lifting the club."

The contrast between this season and last season is as great for Eves personally as it is for the club. Last year he struggled. True, he finished leading scorer — but with only seven goals. This season, though, he has silenced many of the critics at Molineux with some of his best football.

"Last season I was on a week-by-week contract which meant I couldn't relax because I was unsure of my position at the club and my form suffered. Also, I wasn't playing in my best position because, for the previous two years, I was playing on the left side of midfield and not in my favourite position of central striker."

SIXES LINE-UP

THE Football League's first-ever six-a-side football competition is being staged at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre on January 25 and 26.

The line-up on January 25 is: Everton v Arsenal, Swansea v Birmingham, Nottingham Forest v Southampton, Ipswich v Man City, Everton v Nottingham Forest, Swansea v Ipswich, Arsenal v Southampton, Birmingham v Man City.

January 26: Everton v Southampton, Swansea v Man City, Arsenal v Nottingham Forest, Birmingham v Ipswich. Semi-Finals and Final.



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BROOKING BIDS FOR ONE MORE SEASON

WEST Ham favourite Trevor Brooking has revealed his intention to quit next year.

The stylish England midfielder player, who is battling back from a hip injury, told 'Match': "If I can regain my fitness I will be looking to play one more season."

Trevor has been out of football since the World Cup Finals and doesn't expect to play again until March.

"I have only just started jogging and it will be a few weeks yet before I'm back in full training."

"It will take most of February to get match fit and then I will have to fight for my place."

"The lads have done really well in the League as well as reaching the Quarter-Finals of the Milk Cup."

ROBSON TELLS HORNETS: KEEP BUZZING!

ENGLAND manager Bobby Robson has leapt to the defence of Watford's much criticised style of play.

And he has hit back at the 'Hornets' critics. "Watford are exhilarating to watch and they get results."

"They send their big men up front to get behind the opposition when the high balls come over and then they get the ball straight into the net."

"It works. Goals are what the game is all about."

"They may be some professional jealousy behind the carping."

"I really haven't time for teams that put together 17 pretty passes and end up with the ball up their backsides," he told a representative of the Britain Israel Public Affairs Committee while on tour in Israel.

The England boss has already demonstrated his support of the 'Watford

Way' by picking black striker Luther Blissett for the national team and including Nigel Callaghan and John Barnes in the Under-21 side.

And his faith in Blissett was rewarded when the Watford star marked his England debut with a hat-trick in the 9-0 European Championship drubbing of Luxembourg at Wembley towards the end of last year.

Adds the England boss: "Watford play four men up front while others sometimes only play with one striker so it's hardly likely their rivals will get as many goals."

"Every club has the right to play the game as they see fit."

"A manager must stand by his team's results — and Graham Taylor's Watford are certainly getting the results."

"You've got to hand it to the man. He's brought them up from the Fourth Division and taken them almost to the top of the First without spending big money on players."

BRYAN TIPS SKY BLUES FOR EUROPE

FORMER England skipper Gerry Francis is the key to Coventry's hopes of a place in Europe.

Who says so? None other than the present England captain, Bryan Robson.

Bryan, whose team Manchester United were on the end of a 3-0 drubbing at Highfield Road over the holiday period, told 'Match': "Coventry have a lot of big lads in the team and they seem to have a good thing going."

"They are definitely in with a chance of a place in Europe as long as Gerry Francis remains in the team."

"It is a tremendous help to have an old head in midfield with such a young side."

● SEE Pages 14 and 15 for a special feature on the 'Sky Blues'.

■ STRIKER John Hawley is back at Arsenal to boost the club's first team squad after loan spells with Orient and his former club Hull.

MATCH CHAT

Compiled by Melvyn Beck



KING Kenny Dalglish is back to his best and, to mark his return to top form, he was awarded the prestigious Match Weekly First Division 'Matchman of the Month' award for November.

TAYLOR ON THE RUN...

WATFORD manager Graham Taylor has entered the London Marathon to raise money for his club and a project that is very dear to his heart — a new family terrace.

It means getting up at six every morning to train, but Graham hopes that Watford fans will sponsor his 26-mile run on April 17 and that the money raised will help finance the new barriers, turnstiles, toilet and refreshment facilities required.

"The happy atmosphere in the family enclosure is something we'd like to expand to the terraces," he says.

TREBLE TOPS!

LIVERPOOL goal machine Ian Rush is the first player to score three First Division hat-tricks in a season since Phil Boyer did it for Southampton in 1979-80.

Ian's victims were Notts County, Coventry and Everton, while Phil, now with Manchester City, shattered Bristol City, Derby and Crystal Palace.

Meanwhile, Ian's striking partner, Kenny Dalglish, ended the holiday programme needing only seven more League goals to become only the second player to complete a century of League goals in both England and Scotland.

The first was former Nottingham Forest and Coventry favourite Neil Martin.

■ ANOTHER of the Allen footballing family has started on the road to soccer stardom. Martin, a cousin of Queen's Park Rangers striker Clive, has been signed as a youth team player by the Second Division club. Clive's father, Les, was a former Rangers and Tottenham player, while his cousin Paul plays for West Ham.

BOYS BENEFIT FROM WOLVES WIN

SECOND Division leaders Wolves were the first winners of the Fiat Auto (UK) Ltd 'Performance of the Week' award.

England manager Bobby Robson and his panel of judges nominated Wolves for their 3-1 victory at Fulham on New Year's Day.

So the Wolves Boys Club received the first £500 from the £70,000 sponsorship.

Fiat are presenting £500 to a Boys Club nominated by members of the Football League Executive Staffs' Association at the winning club.

The panel, which includes several leading managers, will select the outstanding club performance of the week in European, FA Cup and Football League competitions.

■ A NEW international youth soccer tournament is being staged in London this summer.

Ten countries are expected to take part in the London Cup from July 30 to August 6 at the Brunel University campus.

The age groups are under-19, under-16 and under-14 and interested clubs should contact New Olympic Sports, 7 Lavender Hill, London SW11 5QW.

● IPSWICH directors have presented their former skipper Mick Mills with a carriage clock to mark his 17 years' "time" at Portman Road.

The presentation was made after Mick's first trip back to Ipswich in the colours of Southampton.

● TWO Bournemouth players have quit the country to return to former pastures.

Yugoslav full-back Ivan Golac, who joined them from Southampton this season, has returned to Red Star Belgrade, the club from whom 'Saints' signed him. And striker Dean Mooney has returned to Sweden to play for Vasalund.

● FESTIVE charity came from Hereford's John Crabbe at Torquay.

He helped the home side to a 2-1 victory with a spectacular forty-yard own goal, and then put one in the right end for good measure.

GOALS



ABOVE: A delighted Kenny Dalglish — arm raised in triumph — gets the congratulations of Phil Neal (left) and skipper Graeme Souness after scoring in the 5-2 defeat of Manchester City at Anfield on Boxing Day.
RIGHT: Ian Rush — he forms a deadly partnership with Kenny Dalglish at Anfield.



IAN RUSH spoke this week of the great goals chase... and then revealed his secret fear that he would never make the grade at Liverpool.

Almost a year after his £300,000 transfer from lowly Chester, the Anfield goal-machine had made only one first team appearance for the Merseyside giants and was struggling in the reserves.

He was down in the dumps and beginning to wish he had never left the Third Division club. "I thought I had made a big mistake," reveals Ian.

"I wasn't scoring goals and was really unhappy at the time. I was a little overawed with the place and scared I wouldn't make it."

But things have turned full circle for Ian who has scored over 50 League and Cup goals for Liverpool in just over a year — including four hat-tricks.

"I still can't believe how things have changed for me," he says. "I never dreamed I would score so many goals."

Ian — together with striking partner Kenny Dalglish — is one of the main reasons why Liverpool are running away with the League Championship.

And he could be the man who will help the Reds become the first Division One side to score 100 League goals in a season, since Spurs achieved the enviable record 20 years ago.

Liverpool required another 48 goals from 19 games to reach the magic ton following the 3-1 win over Arsenal on Jan 3 — an



average of 2.5 per game.

And the Welsh international forward believes the figure may be within their reach. "If we keep playing and scoring goals the way we have been it may be possible," he says.

"But it's going to be very difficult because teams we play between now and the end of the season are going to fight harder than ever."

"An average of just over two goals a game doesn't sound much, but to maintain that over 19 games would be very difficult... I will be happy if we win 1-0 every week."

The 100-goal target has increasingly been under threat over recent years and Ian believes the reason is that more clubs are

... BUT WE WON'T TOP

LIVERPOOL won't break the 100 goal barrier this season. Our luck in front of goal is bound to run out soon.

We've been fortunate in hitting five past Notts County and Manchester City and four against European Champions Aston Villa, but I can't see that spree continuing.

I've played in games where we've scored four from six chances and others when we've only got one from at least 26 openings! Luck plays such an important part.

At the moment we are going through a purple patch, but even though we'd reached 58 League goals after our 3-1 win against Arsenal, I don't believe we'll top the ton.

Not that it worries me. You don't get any medals for finishing the season with 100 goals.

The only thing that matters is the League Championship and I'll be happy if we win the rest of our First Division games 1-0 as long as we end up with the title.

The goals have been coming mainly from Ian Rush and Kenny Dalglish. Both are enjoying a fabulous season.

There was a lot of pressure on young Ian at the beginning of the season. After doing so well last term it was obvious that he'd be a marked man.

But he's answered the extra attention in the best possible way — with goals. I know that he would have been happy to have scored 20 goals this season and he's already exceeded

that.

The Welsh international will score goals at any level. He's got that natural instinct although obviously he's been helped by the wily Kenny Dalglish — a man who was written off after the World Cup Finals in Spain.

The duo form the perfect partnership. Kenny has the clever head while Ian has the deadly pace. And even though Kenny is in his thirties he can be quicker than an 18-year-old because he out-thinks the younger players.

Kenny came in for criticism earlier this season because he wasn't scoring goals. That was unfair because I don't think a striker should be judged on how often he hits the net.

As long as they are creating chances for others they are doing a good job. It doesn't matter who gets the goals.

On a personal level I've already equalled my League goal tally of last season. Following my effort against Arsenal I'd got five.

Goals have never really bothered me. I don't consider scoring goals as part of my game, although it's nice to get one or two in a season. My best ever tally is 12 and that was in my Middlesbrough days.

Liverpool enjoyed a tremendous Christmas and New Year programme and now people are already handing us the League Championship. That's utter nonsense. There's still half the campaign to go.

THE GRAEME SOUNESS COLUMN



IN A RUSH



'If you can't score goals at Liverpool you can't score anywhere'

Left: Ian Rush blasts in his and Liverpool's second goal against rivals Everton at Goodison Park. He scored his first hat-trick of the season that day and says: "It was fantastic and all that more special because I used to be an Everton fan."

beginning to realise their responsibility to entertain the public.

He says: "With attendances getting lower and lower, clubs know they have got to do something to bring the fans back — and that means score more goals."

"I think the three points for a win system has also helped, because teams who perhaps would have played for a draw away from home are attacking more with an extra two points at stake."

Liverpool have been closer than most teams to the magic figure in recent years and last season scored 80 League goals.

This season they are almost

certain to exceed that figure.

"Liverpool will always score a lot of goals," says Ian. "We love to go forward and try and entertain the fans."

"And the attacking policy at Anfield has obviously helped me score so many goals. There are so many good players here to make chances for me."

"Players like Kenny Dalglish and Graeme Souness make life easier for me because they play some tremendous balls and I know the chances will come."

"If you can't score goals at Liverpool you can't score anywhere."

Ian is enjoying something of a purple patch at the moment but it's been a rocky road to the top for

the young striker, who once turned down a move to Anfield.

He had to wait over a year to get his big chance following his £300,000 move from Chester in May 1980.

"It was a very frustrating time," says Ian. "I was in and out of the reserves and struggling to score. I had lost all my confidence."

Towards the end of the 1980/81 season, Ian, who scored 14 goals in 34 League games for Chester, played six games in the Liverpool side, but failed to find the net.

The following season he was back in the reserves and missed the first eight League games. But he was picked for the European Cup game against OPS Oulo of Finland and scored in the 7-0 home

win. "It was a fantastic feeling getting my first goal for the club and it gave me a lot of confidence," says Ian, who was picked for the following League game against Leeds.

"I scored two in the Leeds game and I felt then I was part of the Liverpool set-up — I haven't looked back since."

That season he scored 30 League and cup goals — despite missing ten games. — and he has gone from strength to strength this season.

"I was told that my second season would be the toughest and I am getting more tightly marked," he says. "But I have still managed to score goals and I'm really happy with my form."

And what striker would not be happy after notching up three hat-tricks with more than a third of the season still to go.

He couldn't have picked a better time or place for his first — at Goodison Park in the Merseyside derby.

His four goals in the 5-0 victory naturally gave him great pleasure. "Goal-wise that's got to be the best game of my career so far," he says.

"It was one of those days where everything went right for me. It was a fantastic day and was made all the more special because I used to be an Everton fan."

Ian's goal scoring spree continued the following week against Coventry when he completed another hat-trick. "I couldn't believe it," he says. "Every shot I hit seemed to go in."

And he did not have to wait too long before his third three-goal show of the season against Notts County on New Year's Day.

Obviously Ian is full of confidence. "I can't seem to do anything wrong at the moment," he says. "The lads at Liverpool have helped me tremendously — particularly Kenny Dalglish."

"I just have to be in the right place at the right time and as long as I can keep doing that I will be happy."

THE TON

But I'm confident the future of the club is good and just before the festive period I put pen to paper and signed another contract which ties me to Liverpool until I'm 33.

My old contract wasn't due to expire until the end of the season but I was delighted when the Liverpool management offered me a new deal.

I hadn't really thought about my future but moving to another club would have been taking a step downwards and there's no way I wanted to do that. I still want to win things and hopefully I can do it here.

Sammy Lee also signed a new contract and that means that all the Liverpool players are contracted for at least the next two years. That must bode well for the future.

We're not an old team — in fact only Kenny Dalglish and Phil Neal are in their thirties — so we are confident that we can still win things.

Our sights are obviously set on the League title this season and the next hurdle in that campaign is a tough home fixture against Birmingham.

● Graeme Souness was talking to Anthony Hawkswell.

TON-UP TEAMS IN LAST TWENTY YEARS

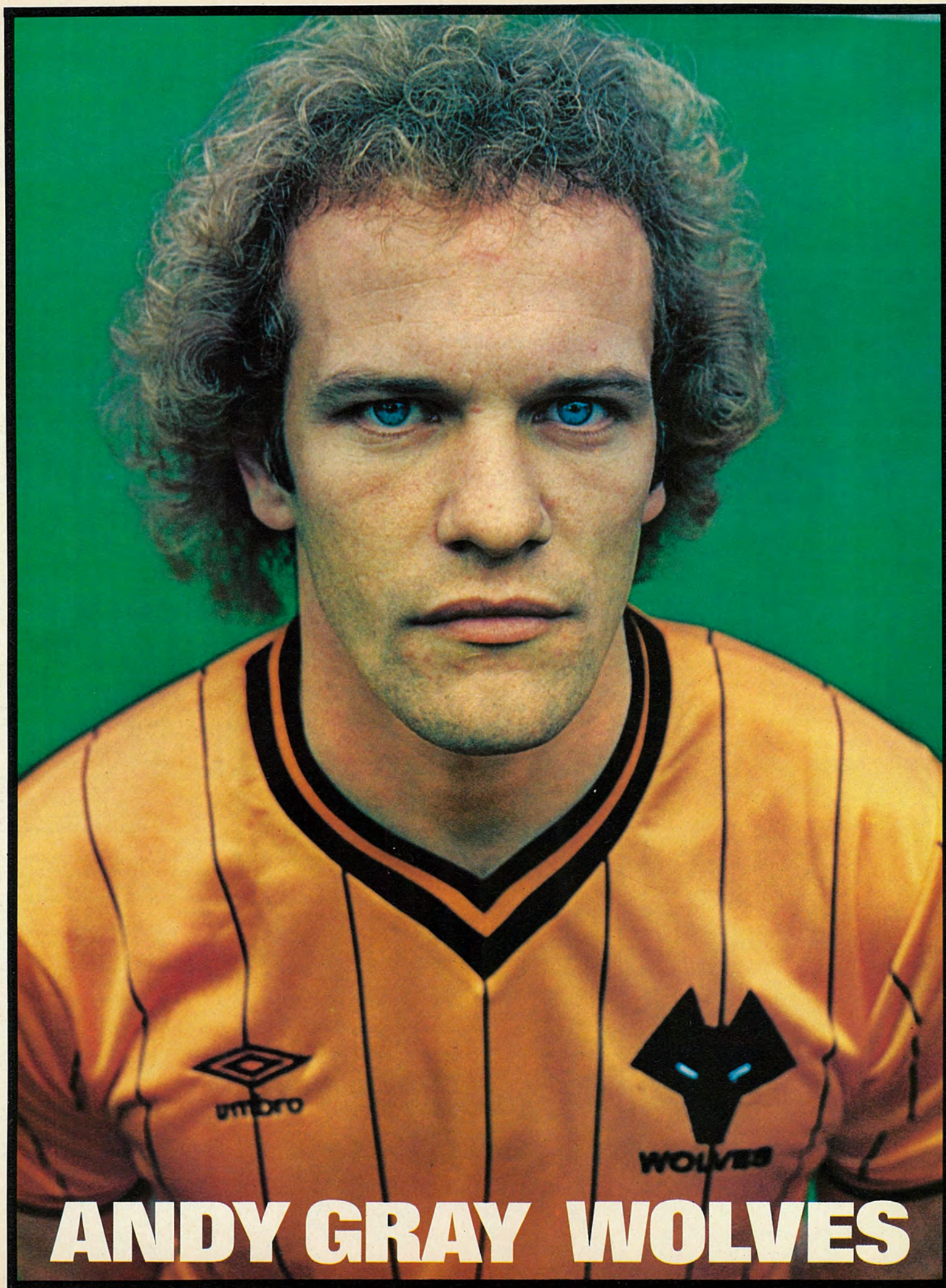
	Pos
1962-63: Tottenham, Division One, 111	2nd
Northampton, Division Three, 109	1st
Bristol City, Division Three, 100	14th
Mansfield, Division Four, 108	4th
1963-64: Southampton, Division Two, 100	5th
Carlisle, Division Four, 113	2nd
1964-65: Brighton, Division Four, 102	1st
Chester, Division Four, 119	8th
1965-66: Hull, Division Three, 109	1st
Bradford P.A., Division Four, 102	11th
1966-67: Q.P.R., Division Three, 103	1st
1975-76: Lincoln, Division Four, 111	1st
1979-80: Huddersfield, Division Four, 101	1st

DIVISIONAL GOALSCORING RECORDS

Division One: 128 — Aston Villa, 1930-31
 Division Two: 122 — Middlesbrough, 1926-27
 Division Three: 111 — Q.P.R., 1961-62
 Division Four: 134 — Peterborough, 1960-61

TOP FIRST DIVISION SCORERS SINCE TOTTENHAM'S TON-UP

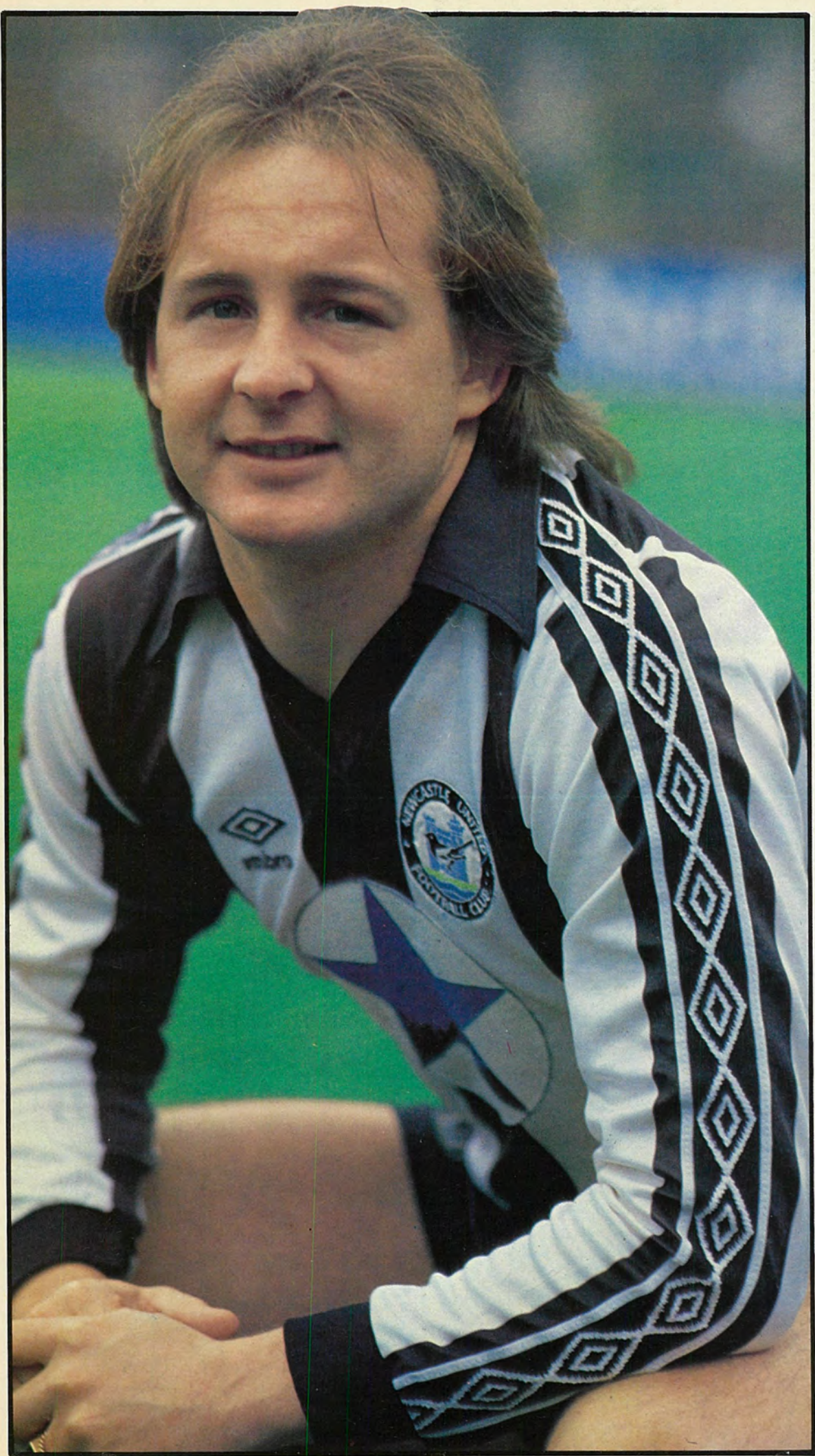
1962-63: 111 — Tottenham	1972-73: 72 — Liverpool
1963-64: 97 — Tottenham	1973-74: 67 — Ipswich
1964-65: 89 — Man. United	1974-75: 68 — Burnley
and Chelsea	1975-76: 75 — Derby
1965-66: 91 — West Brom	1976-77: 76 — Aston Villa
1966-67: 84 — Man. United	1977-78: 76 — Everton
1967-68: 89 — Man. United	1978-79: 85 — Liverpool
1968-69: 77 — Everton	1979-80: 81 — Liverpool
1969-70: 84 — Leeds	1980-81: 77 — Ipswich
1970-71: 72 — Leeds	1981-82: 80 — Liverpool
1971-72: 73 — Leeds	



ANDY GRAY WOLVES

DAVID MCCREERY

NEWCASTLE UNITED and N. IRELAND



HALF-TERM REPORT

IT will continue to be a Happy New Year for the majority of clubs who were occupying the top places at the start of 1983.

History reveals that around ten of the teams turning the year in the 13 available 'pole' positions will still be there at the end of the season.

In the last ten seasons, seven of the eventual League Champions were at the top of the First Division after the crucial Christmas programme.

The exceptions were Derby, Aston Villa and current title favourites Liverpool, who came from as far back as 12th last season to reclaim the crown.

It's yet another pointer to Liverpool retaining the Championship.

And it also looks good for the likes of Watford and Nottingham Forest.

In the same ten-season span, only eight (of thirty teams) disappeared from the top three after figuring in those positions at the start of the New Year.

And the same success rate applies to the other divisions.

In the Second, 20 of the 29 promoted teams from 1972-73 were in top three at Christmas.

**WHO will be crowned Champions?
Which teams will be promoted... and
which teams are to be relegated?
Discover some of the answers in this
exclusive 'Match Weekly' form guide
compiled by reporter Melvyn Beck.**

And, if Wolves fans need any convincing that their rejuvenated team is destined for the Championship, well, they can take comfort from the following statistics.

In the last ten years, eight of the Second Division leaders at the start of the year went on to win the title.

In the Third Division, 17 of the 29 promoted sides were in the top three, the biggest exception being last season's champions, Burnley, who climbed remarkably from 19th position at the start of the year.

And in the Fourth Division, only 11 of the 40 promoted clubs fell out of the promotion zone during the last third of the season.

In fact, there has been only one season since 1973 when the three promoted teams came through from the chasing pack.

That was in 1979-80 when Leicester, Sunderland and Birmingham were promoted from the second Division after lying fourth,



Wolves' Wayne Clarke — four goals in four matches over the holiday period as his team collected maximum points in the march back to Division One.

fifth and sixth respectively at the beginning of January.

But there is little New Year cheer for those clubs battling against relegation or re-election.

Of the 138 teams either relegated or forced to seek re-election in the last ten seasons, 89 of them were in the 'dropping' zone after the holiday games.

The First Division has the most depressing record for halfway strugglers with only nine out of 29 managing to escape before the end of the season.

It's a similar story in the Second with only ten out of 29 relegation-placed teams avoiding the drop in the end.

HOLIDAY HEROES ... AND VILLAINS

THE hectic holiday programme around Christmas and the New Year is crucial to promotion or championship aspirations.

And 'Match' has compiled exclusive form tables as you can see how your team fared over the four-game holiday period.

The figures on the left hand side of the column indicate each team's position in the League before the Christmas matches, and the figures in brackets show the number of places each team moved up or down after the holiday period.

Only four teams, Wolves, Portsmouth, Oxford and Peterborough, had 100 per cent records over that period, and Fourth Division Peterborough made the biggest leap of all, climbing eight places.

Fourth Division Blackpool were the only side not to collect a point and, as a result, slumped seven places in the table.

POSITIONS AT THE END OF 1982

DIVISION ONE	DIVISION THREE
Leading positions	Leading positions
Liverpool	Lincoln
Nott'm Forest	Portsmouth
Watford	Huddersfield
Relegation zone	Relegation zone
Brighton	Walsall
Birmingham	Preston
Sunderland	Millwall
DIVISION TWO	DIVISION FOUR
Leading positions	Leading positions
Wolves	Bury
Q.P.R.	Hull
Fulham	Port Vale
	Swindon
Relegation zone	Re-election zone
Cambridge	Darlington
Burnley	Bristol City
Derby	Hereford
	Crewe

DIVISION ONE

Position before Christmas	Up or Down	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Liverpool	(-)	4	3	1	0	13	4	10
21 Norwich	(+4)	4	3	0	1	5	3	9
4 Watford	(+2)	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
16 Arsenal	(+2)	4	2	1	1	7	6	7
14 Stoke	(+2)	4	2	1	1	3	5	7
22 Birmingham	(-)	4	1	3	0	6	3	6
6 West Ham	(+1)	4	2	0	2	9	7	6
7 Coventry	(+1)	3	2	0	1	7	5	6
20 Sunderland	(-1)	4	1	3	0	1	0	6
19 Luton	(+1)	4	2	0	2	5	5	6
11 Tottenham	(+2)	4	2	0	2	4	6	6
3 Nott'm Forest	(-1)	4	1	2	1	6	6	5
21 Man. United	(-1)	4	1	2	1	3	4	5
12 Everton	(-1)	4	1	1	2	6	6	4
10 Ipswich	(-1)	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
15 Notts County	(-1)	4	1	1	2	7	8	4
13 Southampton	(-2)	4	1	1	2	4	6	4
5 Aston Villa	(-1)	4	1	1	2	4	7	4
9 Man. City	(-1)	4	1	1	2	6	10	4
8 West Brom	(-)	4	0	3	1	5	6	3
18 Brighton	(-1)	4	0	2	2	2	5	2
17 Swansea	(-3)	4	0	1	3	3	6	1

DIVISION THREE

9 Oxford	(+4)	4	4	0	0	10	3	12
3 Cardiff	(+1)	4	3	0	1	11	7	9
6 Huddersfield	(+2)	4	3	0	1	11	7	9
5 Portsmouth	(+2)	3	3	0	0	6	3	9
19 Chesterfield	(+1)	4	2	1	1	10	6	7
1 Lincoln	(-)	4	2	1	1	7	3	7
24 Walsall	(+3)	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
18 Sheff. United	(+1)	3	2	0	1	7	4	6
20 Orient	(+1)	3	2	0	1	6	3	6
22 Doncaster	(+2)	4	2	0	2	5	5	6
14 Exeter	(-)	4	1	2	1	6	6	5
16 Wrexham	(+1)	4	1	2	1	6	6	5
12 Gillingham	(+1)	4	1	2	1	3	4	5
4 Newport	(-2)	4	1	1	2	6	7	4
21 Preston	(-2)	4	1	1	2	4	6	4
13 Wigan	(-)	4	1	1	2	6	11	4
23 Millwall	(+1)	4	0	3	1	4	5	3
8 Plymouth	(-)	3	1	0	2	4	5	3
11 Bradford	(+1)	4	0	3	1	4	7	3
10 Southend	(-2)	4	0	2	2	2	4	2
2 Bristol Rvs.	(-5)	3	0	1	2	7	11	1
7 Brentford	(-2)	4	0	1	3	6	10	1
17 Reading	(-5)	4	0	1	3	2	10	1

DIVISION TWO

2 Wolves	(+1)	4	4	0	0	10	1	12
17 Rotherham	(+7)	4	3	1	0	6	1	10
19 Bolton	(+1)	4	2	2	0	5	3	8
20 Cambridge	(-)	3	2	1	0	4	1	7
6 Leicester	(+2)	4	2	1	1	5	2	7
18 Middlesbrough	(+2)	4	1	3	0	5	3	6
15 Newcastle	(+3)	4	1	3	0	7	6	6
9 Shrewsbury	(+3)	4	2	0	2	6	6	6
10 Barnsley	(-1)	4	1	2	1	5	2	5
12 C. Palace	(-1)	4	1	2	1	3	3	5
3 Fulham	(-)	4	1	2	1	4	5	5
7 Oldham	(-1)	4	0	4	0	7	7	4
22 Derby	(+1)	4	1	1	2	6	6	4
21 Burnley	(-1)	4	1	1	2	5	5	4
11 Blackburn	(-3)	4	1	1	2	3	5	4
4 Sheff. Wed.	(-1)	4	1	1	2	6	9	4
14 Chelsea	(+1)	4	1	1	2	2	6	4
5 Grimsby	(+2)	4	1	1	2	4	10	4
1 Q.P.R.	(-1)	3	1	0	2	4	5	3
8 Leeds	(-1)	4	0	3	1	3	6	3
16 Charlton	(-3)	4	0	1	3	6	10	1
13 Carlisle	(-4)	4	0	1	3	4	8	1

DIVISION FOUR

19 Peterborough	(+8)	4	4	0	0	12	1	12
5 Port Vale	(+2)	4	3	1	0	8	4	10
7 Wimbledon	(+3)	4	3	1	0	6	3	10
16 Stockport	(+4)	4	3	0	1	9	5	9
21 Halifax	(+2)	4	2	1	1	9	6	7
10 Mansfield	(+1)	4	2	1	1	7	4	7
15 Rochdale	(+1)	4	2	1	1	7	5	7
3 Hull	(+2)	4	2	1	1	6	6	7
11 York	(+1)	4	2	0	2	9	6	6
8 Torquay	(-)	4	2	0	2	4	5	6
20 Hartlepool	(+2)	4	2	0	2	5	9	6
14 Northampton	(-3)	4	1	2	1	7	5	5
23 Bristol City	(+2)	4	1	2	1	7	7	5
4 Scunthorpe	(-1)	4	1	2	1	6	6	5
13 Aldershot	(-2)	4	1	2	1	4	4	5
1 Bury	(-1)	4	1	1	2	7	6	4
6 Colchester	(+1)	4	1	1	2	5	5	4
17 Tranmere	(+3)	4	1	1	2	7	9	4
24 Crewe	(-)	4	1	1	2	4	8	4
2 Swindon	(-4)	4	0	3	1	4	5	3
12 Chester	(-1)	4	1	0	3	5	8	3
22 Hereford	(-1)	4	1	0	3	4	10	3
18 Darlington	(-4)	4	0	1	3	5	11	1
9 Blackpool	(-7)	4	0	0	4	1	10	0

GEOFF PIKE

WEST HAM UNITED

**GOLDEN
GOAL!**

**WEST HAM 3,
TOTTENHAM 0**
Division One, Upton
Park, Saturday,
January 1, 1983.

WHAT a curtain-raiser to 1983 for West Ham's unsung hero Geoff Pike.

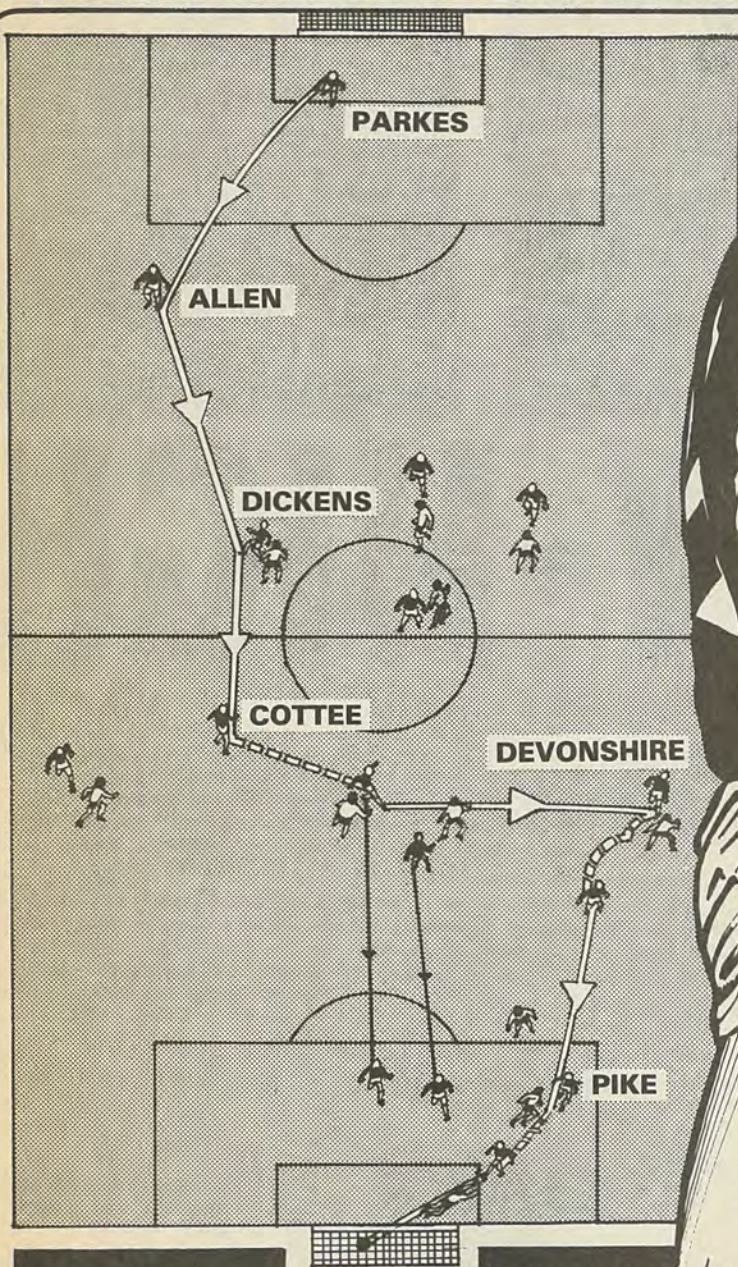
Captain for the day in the absence of the injured Billy Bonds and Frank Lampard, the tireless midfield operator put the icing on the cake in an emphatic 3-0 defeat of capital rivals Tottenham.

It was bearded Geoff who sealed Tottenham's fate with the third goal 15 minutes from time, providing the clinical execution to a sweeping, length-of-the-field move that totally disected the visiting rearguard.

From goalkeeper Phil Parkes, youngsters Paul Allen, Alan Dickens, Tony Cottee and England's Alan Devonshire were all involved in creating the opening for the acting skipper who was coolness personified in the face of the advancing Ray Clemence.

Says Geoff: "I made a forward move when young Tony Cottee collected the ball from Alan Dickens, but instead of pushing it through he laid it square to Alan Devonshire.

"I decided to make another run beyond the Tottenham defence and Alan played through the perfect ball to enable me to clip it beyond the diving Clemence."



Top diagram: Parkes throws out to Allen who plays on to Dickens. Dickens finds Cottee in space and the youngster, making his debut, pushes the ball out to Devonshire on the left. He rounds a defender and plays a perfect through ball for Pike to run on to and slip it past the advancing Ray Clemence.

Right: West Ham goalkeeper Phil Parkes — the move began with his throw-out.

STEVE McGRATH

BRIAN Roberts ended an 11-year goal drought when he scored against West Ham at Upton Park this season.

The popular full-back — known to everyone as Harry — scored his first senior goal for the club after more than 150 League appearances.

Such was the delight of the rest of his team-mates that they presented him with a special T-shirt with 'I saw Harry Roberts score' emblazoned across the front.

"That goal signalled the best week of my life. Everyone was so pleased for me and the congratulations never stopped. I never seemed to stop drinking champagne!" says Brian.

"Eleven years is a long time to wait and it was a hell of a goal to break my duck. It was a spectacular volley from the edge of the penalty area.

"I scored the goal in the first half and no-one could wipe the grin off my face for the rest of the game. What made it even better was that we won 3-0 when no-one was expecting us to get a result.

"I'd been getting quite a lot of friendly stick from the rest of the lads in the team about my scoring record — or lack of it!

"I suppose over the years it had become a mental thing. I never believed I'd score a goal. Now I'm confident I can get some more," says Brian.

"The nearest I ever came to scoring before was against Spurs in a cup-tie a couple of years ago. Pat Jennings was in goal then and, after being put clear, I just froze and chipped it harmlessly into his hands."

Brian hasn't had much of a chance to improve on his scoring record because he broke the little toe in his right foot during training on Christmas Day.

"I was out for two weeks and normally that would have meant missing two games but, as it was during the holiday period, I missed five games. It was very frustrating."

Manchester-born Brian has had to sit in the stands and watch as his

HARRY OH!

team-mates have continued their climb up the First Division table.

He says: "It's great to pick up the newspapers and see us highly placed in the League table. Usually when you look for Coventry you automatically look at the bottom first.

"People have talked about the pressure on the players now we're up there but I can tell you I prefer this sort of pressure to that of relegation worries.

"It's a good platform for us to better ourselves. I only hope that we can build on it and earn a place in Europe. I'd dearly love to play in Europe next season. It would be great for the club and the city.

"Before Dave Sexton arrived at the club, my impression of the place was

that Coventry's main priority was to stay solvent. Winning things didn't really matter.

"Now I believe all that has changed and that the management want to win things. That's great news for everyone."

At 27, Brian finds himself one of the more senior players in the team and he says: "Bringing in youth is the trend in football nowadays but I've never considered myself a grandad. I enjoy playing alongside youngsters and get on very well with them."

Right: Coventry full-back Brian Roberts fires home his first goal in 11 years against West Ham.

SKY-HIGH

COVENTRY'S car workers used to make more headlines than the city's football team.

Although bursting with potential and young talent, the club always seemed to be fighting a desperate rearguard action against relegation and never inspired more than a mediocre following.

But while the motor trade has suffered a dramatic recession and the city is left with one in five of the population out of a job, the 'Sky Blues' have slipped into overdrive and are currently enjoying their best ever season in the First Division.

And the man behind the club's emergence, manager Dave Sexton, readily admits that if he'd had his way, a few of the players currently

starring in the side might not have figured in his plans at all.

He says: "When I arrived at Highfield Road at the beginning of last season, I expected to have money to spend on new players. After all, Coventry had just raked in over half a million pounds from the sales of Andy Blair to Aston Villa, Mick Ferguson to Everton and Gary Bannister to Sheffield Wednesday."

But before Dave could get his cheque book out, Coventry suffered a financial crisis when they lost money in an American business interest.

"After looking round for players, I suddenly found myself with no money and the realisation I'd have to stick with what I'd got. If I had been able to spend, some of my players wouldn't have had a chance to blossom."

The former Manchester United boss did manage to persuade the board of directors to give him £145,000 and he admits he gambled it.

"I went to QPR and bought Gerry Francis. That was a risk because he's injury-prone but I felt he was the player to give us experience and a steadying hand in midfield."

"The gamble has paid off really well. Gerry has done a superb job for Coventry both on and off the field. Along with Steve Hunt, he'd grace any team in the world."

Dave also believes that the form of Steve Whitton has played an important part in Coventry's transformation. He says: "Steve joined us as a midfielder, but he's found a niche for himself as a genuine outside right."

"He's proved very reliable and has been making things happen for us up front. As well as him, we've also got Mark Hateley, Jim Melrose and Garry Thompson fighting for the other striking roles."

"That competition for places has to be very healthy and it's a great position for me to be in. The trio are a handful for any defence."

Although Coventry are suddenly getting recognition for attaining

CITY FACTS

LEAGUE RECORDS: 1919

Elected to Division Two; 1925-26 Division Three (North); 1926-36 Division Three (South); 1936-52 Division Two; 1952-58 Division Three (South); 1958-59 Division Four; 1959-64 Division Three; 1964-67 Division Two; 1967- Division One.

HONOURS: Football League: Division One best season (6th, 1969-70); Division Two Champions, 1966-67; Division Three Champions, 1963-64; Division Three (South) Champions, 1935-36; runners-up, 1933-34; Division Four runners-up, 1958-59.

FA CUP, BEST SEASON:

Sixth Round, 1962-63, 1966-67, 1972-73, 1981-82.

LEAGUE CUP, BEST SEASON: Semi-Final (1980-81).

EUROPEAN

COMPETITION: Fairs Cup, 1970-71.

MANAGERS since 1969-70:

Noel Cantwell, Bob Dennison, Gordon Milne, Dave Sexton.



Left: Dave Sexton — hoping to see his team in Europe next season.



BLUES!

THIS season has seen Coventry City attain their highest ever position in the League. Still in the hunt for the FA Cup and heading for a place in Europe next season, the 'Sky Blues' are producing blue skies over Highfield Road.

These are exciting times for the club that always promised so much, as reporter Anthony Hawkswell discovered...

their highest ever League placing. Dave believes that the improvement began at the end of last season.

He says: "We lost just two of our last 14 games and fortunately we've been able to keep up that record of consistency. At the moment, things are going extremely well for us.

"To attain consistency you've got to play to the best of your ability for long periods. That's what is happening to us at the moment.

"Everyone talks about Coventry having great potential and I believe the potential is here for us to achieve something.

"But it's no good talking about it. You might as well shut up until you've got a trophy on the sideboard."

Dave, sacked by Manchester United in April 1981, is thoroughly enjoying life at Highfield Road away from the pressure that surrounds a big club.

"Although I enjoyed every minute of my spell at Old Trafford, there's no doubt that there's less pressure on me here. When you spend a lot of money with a big club, people expect success.

"At Coventry the public aren't used to winning things so they are grateful when you achieve something. You also get more time to work."

Since leaving Old Trafford, Dave has enjoyed an incredible record of success against his old team. Coventry have beaten them on each of their three meetings.

The most convincing was the 3-0 win at Highfield Road at

Christmas and Dave says: "That was the most satisfying because we played so well.

"Beating United doesn't really give me any extra pleasure. I certainly haven't got any hard feeling towards them and, if Coventry can't win the Championship, I'd love to see United lift it."

Former England Under-21 manager Dave has a reputation for bringing out the best in young players and he admits: "I enjoy working with youngsters.

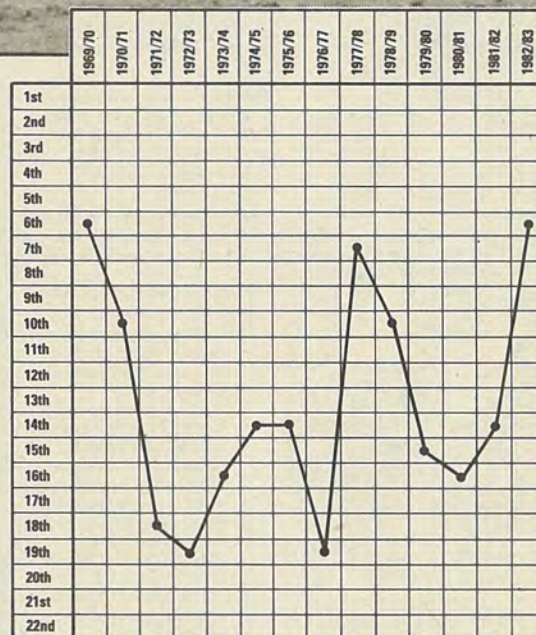
"It's easier to influence younger players than established ones because they are so eager to learn. You don't have to fight against them as much as you may have to older stars.

"There are a few problems involved with working with youngsters. The first is that they tend to let their heads drop when results aren't going too well. If they lose one or two games on the trot, their confidence goes.

"It also works the other way. If they win a few, there's a tendency for it to go to their heads. That's why a couple of experienced players are important."

You can't get much more experienced than former England skipper Gerry Francis and he believes that Coventry can qualify for a place in Europe this season.

When the former QPR and Crystal Palace star joined the club



THE graph left shows Coventry's up and down record in Division One since they achieved their highest ever final position in the League — sixth in season 1969-70.

just under a year ago, they were third from bottom of the First Division.

He says: "If Dave Sexton can steer us to a place in Europe, it will be his greatest managerial achievement. It will be even better than lifting the FA Cup and European Cup-Winners Cup with Chelsea in the early seventies.

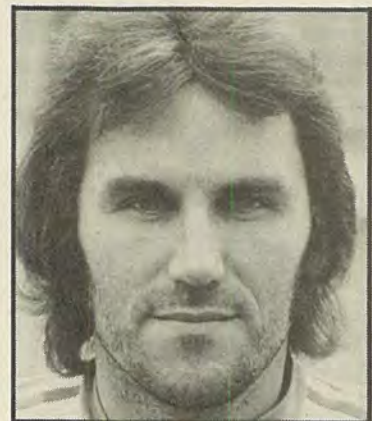
"The main thing to guard against is complacency. I was playing for Crystal Palace when we were described as the team of the eighties and look what happened to us.

"You've got to take the publicity with a pinch of salt. Some of the team believed what was being written about them. I hope that doesn't happen here."

Gerry makes no secret of the fact that he joined Coventry because of the manager, Dave Sexton. He says: "I wasn't keen to move away from London.

"But I believe in the manager and think he can achieve something here. I said at the beginning of the season that we were capable of getting a place in Europe.

"I'm enjoying life at Coventry because the manager gives me a



Skipper Gerry Francis — his signing was a gamble says manager Dave Sexton.

free rein and I enjoy playing alongside young players."

Gerry predicts a big future for many of the Coventry players. He says: "There's no doubt in my mind that Danny Thomas will play for England sometime this year.

"He's a great little full-back and thoroughly deserves a chance at international level.

"Players like Garry Thompson, Mark Hateley, Garry Gillespie and Steve Whitton have all come on bundles this season. I'm very excited about the future at the club."

NEXT WEEK

'All the Way to Wembley' — Coventry are Match Weekly's adopted team.

STAR GALLERY



Chelsea striker Peter Rhoades-Brown (above) is the favourite of 15-year-old Danny Payne of London EC1.



Birmingham goalkeeper Jim Blyth (left) should be Scotland's regular number one, according to John Gibbons of Sheldon, Birmingham.

DRAW a picture of your favourite footballer and you could win a fabulous soccer card game! 'Big League' is an exciting new game normally played by 2-6 people — the object being to form a team of 11 players.



But you can also amuse yourself by playing 'Big League' patience.

It's a game approved by the Football League and all you have to do to stand a chance of winning one is send in your drawing together with a sentence saying why your chosen player deserves a place in 'Star Gallery'.

The sender of each drawing published is a winner! Write to: 'Star Gallery', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

Celtic star Murdo McLeod (left) deserves a place in 'Star Gallery' for scoring the winner in this season's Scottish League Cup Final, says Jeremy Smith of Aldwick, Bognor Regis, Sussex.

Bolton, Lancs reader Cem Azakli has drawn Liverpool's Bruce Grobbelaar (below) because: "He's one of the best goalkeepers in the First Division."



GET SMART!

SPOT the difference . . . and you can win a running suit (right) or a pair of pyjamas (far right). Four of each must be won.

SUPER RUNNING SUITS AND PYJAMAS MUST BE WON

GO running in a suit bearing the name of your favourite team.

Or go to bed in a pair of pyjamas with the crest of your favourite team emblazoned on the chest.

We're offering you the chance to win a jogging suit or a pair of pyjamas by courtesy of Merseywear International Ltd.

We've got four jogging suits and four pairs of pyjamas to give away in a FREE, easy-to-enter competition.

The suits and pyjamas come in chest sizes 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32, and the teams available are England, Liverpool, West Ham, Tottenham and Manchester United.

All you have to do to stand a chance of winning one of these super prizes is to take a careful look at the two sketches.

They may look identical at first glance, but there are ten deliberate differences.

Just circle the difference with a pen on Cartoon B, fill in the entry form, also stating

STOP THE ACTION

NAME the game, the score, the goalkeeper and the scorer of the goal.

RIDDLE TIME

I BEGAN my League career with Walsall, but, after only 24 League appearances, I was transferred to another Midlands club for a six-figure fee. I didn't figure regularly in the side and at one time spent a loan spell with Notts County. I am now a regular in the Second Division with one of the leading promotion contenders in the north. Look out in next week's issue for the identity of our mystery man.

● Last week's answer was Newcastle's Eire international Mick Martin.





your chest size and choice of team, and send it off to:

Merseywear Competition, Match Weekly, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF.

Entries must reach us by Friday, January 28 and the results will be announced in our February 12 issue.

The senders of the first four correct entries out of the 'Match' postbag will each receive a jogging suit, with the next four getting the pyjamas.

Good luck!

MATCH 'EM UP

MATCH up the clubs on the left with the grounds on the right.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1 Chester | a) London Road |
| 2 Scunthorpe | b) Abbey Stadium |
| 3 Peterborough | c) Sealand Road |
| 4 Swindon | d) Fellows Park |
| 5 Walsall | e) Old Show Ground |
| 6 Cambridge | f) County Ground |

SOLUTIONS

MATCH 'EM UP: 1/c; 2/e; 3/a; 4/f; 5/d; 6/b.

the scorer Ronnie Whelan..

Liverpool won 3-1. The goalkeeper on the picture is Tottenham's Ray Clemence and

Tottenham and Liverpool which

League Cup (Mill Cup) Final between

STOP THE ACTION: It was last season's

Hull; 20. shot; 21. Alan.

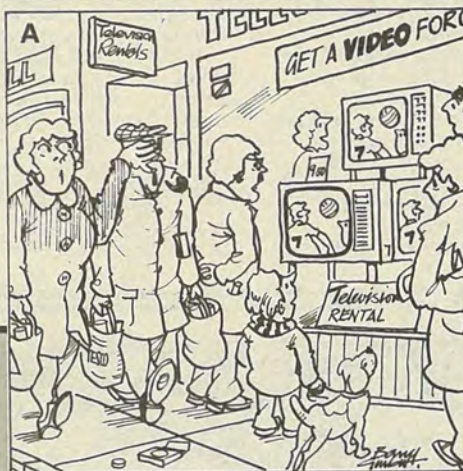
Speight; 16. Alberto; 18. throw; 19.

Luxembourg; 10. Armstrong; 15.

Waddell; 7. Wanders; 8. nine (v.

Ward; 4. Cowans; 5. too long; 6.

leg; 24. St Johnstone. Down: 2. play; 3.



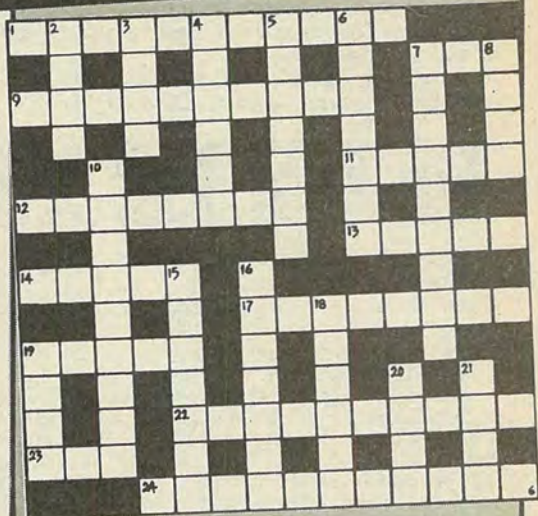
Name

Address

Chest size

Choice of team

SOCCERWORD



ACROSS

- This club's nearest neighbour is Colchester United (7,4)
- A club needs at least one goal to do this (3)
- The nest of 'The Canaries' (6,4)
- This May served Southend, Wrexham and Swansea in a 500-game career (5)
- This Chris played his 200th League match for Plymouth last year (8)
- This May was beginning his career with Leicester whilst 11 across was finishing his with Swansea (5)
- They stand on the goal-line (5) ... and
- ... this man stood between them for Leeds, Scunthorpe, Chesterfield and Swansea (8)
- Stan — played for Aston Villa, Manchester City, Fulham, Chester and Rochdale (5)
- 'Rod Holling' (anagram) — the former Millwall, Manchester United and England winger (6,4)
- The home or away part of a European club trophy tie (3)
- This club plays in Perth (2,9)

DOWN

- Take part in a match (4)
- Forward John — played over 200 games for Lincoln before having a few for Watford (from which, by removing three letters, you can deduce his name) (4)
- Villa man who shares a name with a man who plays cricket for England (6)
- A through pass is said to be this if the ball goes beyond the player it's intended for (3,4)
- Famous international winger who played for Rangers, for almost 20 years and later, after managing Kilmarnock, came back to manage them (7)
- The ones who roam about Wolverhampton? (9)
- England's goal tally in their last European Championship game (4)
- Northern Ireland's star player in the World Cup Finals (9)
- 'The pigs' (anagram) — round them up to find Mick (7)
- Tarantini, Argentina international once on Birmingham City's books (7)
- Sometimes, when the ball goes out of play it has to be — in to restart play (6)
- 'Peapod' is an alternative meaning of the name of this club! (4)
- An attempt at goal (4)
- One of soccer's Brazils (4)



WELCOME once more to 'Furphy's America' — a fascinating look at soccer Stateside through the eyes of former Sheffield United and Watford manager Ken Furphy.

In his time across the Atlantic, Ken has worked with such famous names as Pele, Johan Cruyff, Trevor Francis, George Best and former England skipper Bobby Moore.

And now, back in England, he's telling all about the ups and downs — exclusive to 'Match'.

PELE IN PERIL!

PELE had to be carried to safety following one match! Such was the adoration of the 'King'...

We were in San Antonio where later that season former West Ham and England captain Bobby Moore and ex-Arsenal man Bob McNab were to make their American debuts.

I had visited the Alamo and taken in the sights but we had gone there to play football.

As game time approached, however, Pedro, Pele's bodyguard, spoke to me about his concern for the great man's safety.

The audience was going to be mainly South American and, in their adoration of the 'King', he was anticipating a pitch invasion by fans wishing to touch the master, take his photograph and get his autograph all at the same time.

It had happened before and Pele had been badly jostled.

So we decided that Pedro would study the reaction of the crowd during the game and, five minutes from the end, he would pull his left ear lobe as a signal for me to tell Pele to work his way towards the field exit and so slip off before the final whistle.

Throughout the game, Pedro was continually on the move skirting the perimeter of the field and sure enough he gave me the signal to get Pele off.

But despite several shouts, Pele ignored us — no doubt hoping to score the winning goal.

At the same time, he was putting himself in a dangerous position and, sure enough, at the final whistle over the sides they came in their hundreds — cameras and autograph books waving.

Before I had time to think, Pedro



grabbed my arm and raced me onto the field where we battled through the mob to reach Pele.

Grabbing him between us, we bodily lifted him off his feet and raced as best we could towards the tunnel — fending off fans with a succession of pushes and blows with our free arm.

Recovering in the safety of the dressing room trying to get my breath back, I made it clear to Pele that once was enough. He

apologised.

And looking round to see what had happened to Pedro I saw him calmly taking a steel ruler from the newspaper he had been wielding during our escape.

Now I knew why he always carried a folded paper in his pocket...

NEXT WEEK: George Best goes missing!



**TWO SPECIAL SCHOOLS
FOR YOUNG GOALKEEPERS
(AGED 8-13)
WITH PHIL PARKES**

**ALSO IN 1983
SCHOOLS WITH THE
FOLLOWING 'KEEPERS
RAY CLEMENCE
PAUL COOPER
*BRUCE GROBBELAAR**
*Bruce Grobbelaar Schools to be held in Manchester

NEW

**PHIL
PARKES
1983**

KIT CARSON, NATIONAL GOALKEEPER CENTRE, WESTERFIELD HOUSE, HUMBER DOUCY LANE, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

To: Kit Carson, National Goalkeeper Centre, Westerfield House, Humber Doucy Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk.

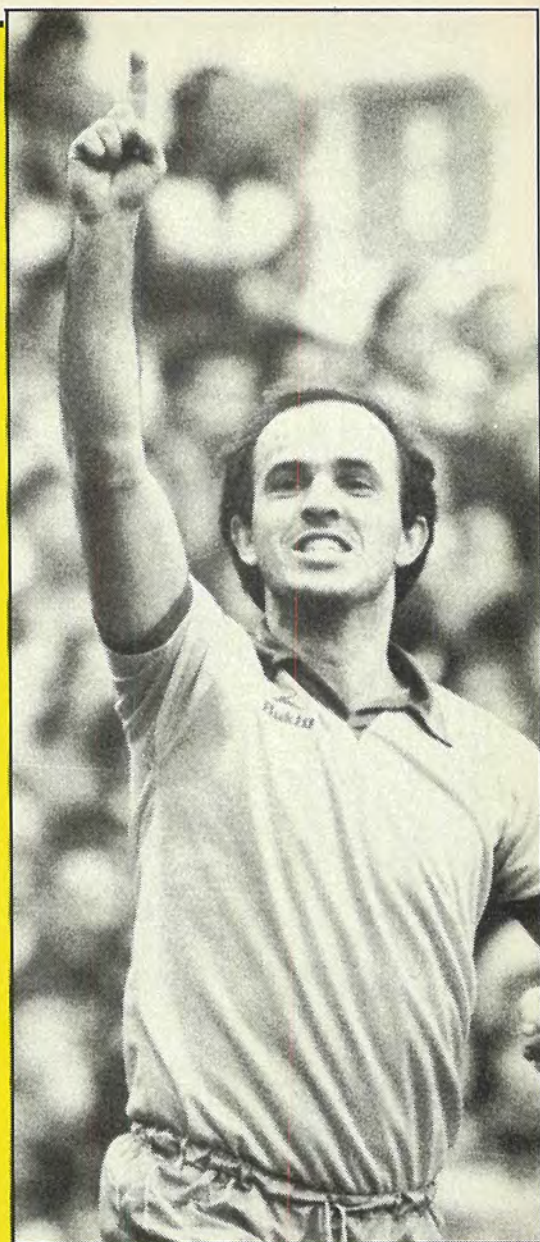
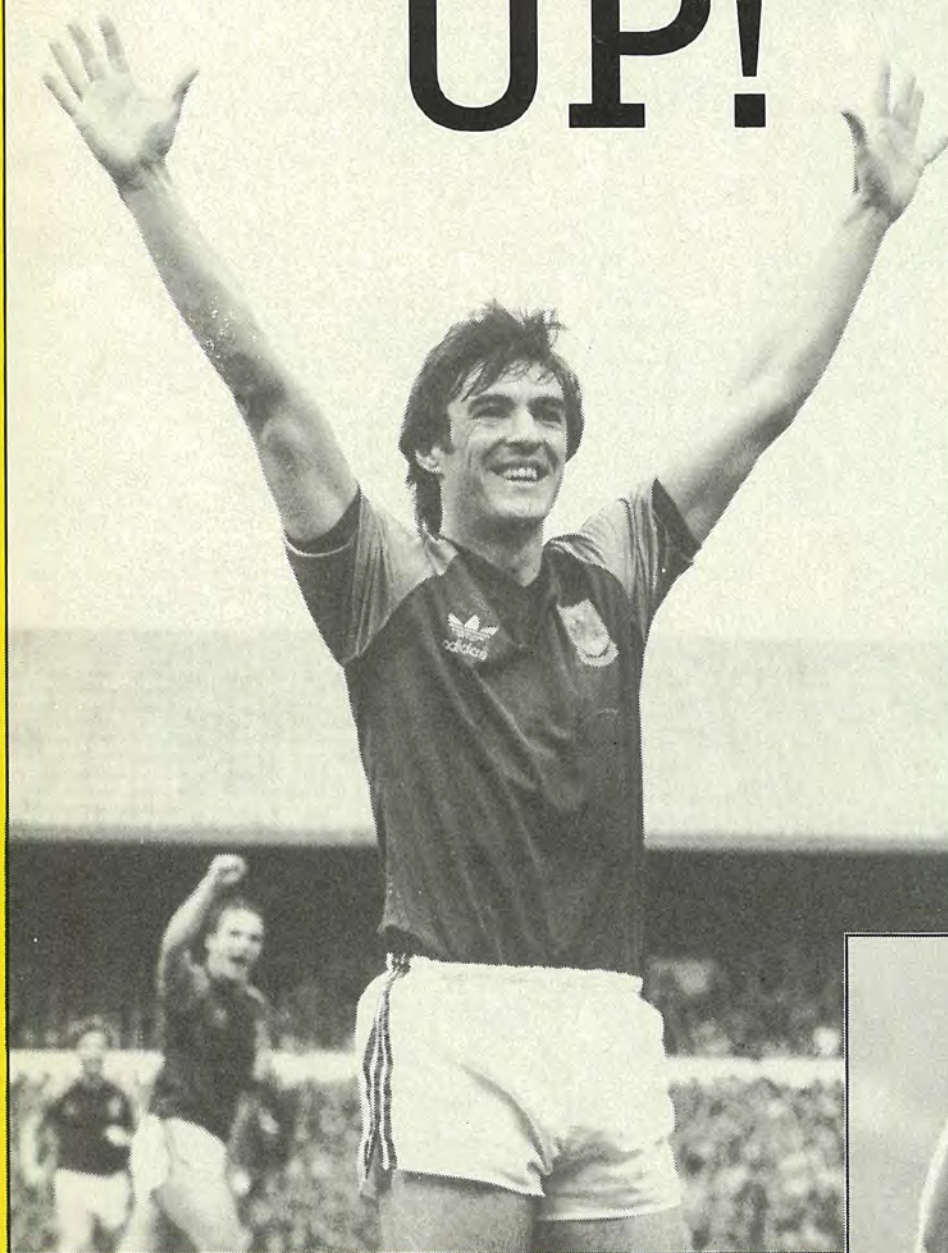
Please send me full information plus booking forms. I enclose a 12½p stamp to cover postage.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

MW

HANDS UP!



IT'S that moment all goalscorers love . . . the ball's in the net and the crowd are ecstatic. Revelling in the glory are West Ham's Belgian ace, Francois Van der Elst (above), Sheffield Wednesday's Ante Mirocevic (top right), Arsenal's Alan Sunderland (left) and Liverpool scoring phenomenon Ian Rush (right).





RANGERS

BACK ROW (left to right): Andrew Kennedy, John McClelland, David McPherson, Colin McAdam, Andy Bruce, Jim Stewart, Peter McCloy, Gordon Marshall (contract cancelled), Craig Paterson, Gregor Stevens, Alex Miller, Ken Lyall.
MIDDLE ROW: Stan Anderson (second team coach), Jim McIntyre, Bobby Russell, Billy Muir, Ian Redford, Douglas Robertson, Jim Bett, Eric Ferguson, Dave MacKinnon, Kenny



Black, Stuart Hogg (sprint coach), Robert Finlay (physio).
FRONT ROW: John Greig (manager), Tom McLean (assistant manager), John MacDonald, Andy Willock (contract cancelled), Derek Johnstone, Billy Mackay, Ally Dawson, Gordon Dalziel, Davie Cooper, Billy Davies, Robert Prytz, Joe Mason (second team coach), and Dave Provan (youth team coach).

STAR CHALLENGE

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL STAR GUEST IS LUTHER BLISSETT

ENGLAND'S newest star, Luther Blissett — the hat-trick hero in the 9-0 slaughter of Luxembourg — is this week's special guest in 'Star Challenge'.

The Watford hot-shot has been selected by 'Hornets' fan Gary Rumsey (13) of Harrow Weald, Middlesex.

Luther has predicted the scorelines of ten First Division matches and he's gone for very few shocks — expecting Liverpool to continue their march towards the title with a 3-0 win over struggling Birmingham.

Top clash of the day is at Old Trafford where Manchester United meet Nottingham Forest for the second time in a matter of three days. The pair met in Wednesday's Milk Cup Quarter-Final.

Both Luther and his challenger go for a share of the honours. Luther predicts a 1-1 draw while Gary reckons the score will be 2-2.

Watford themselves are on duty at Vicarage Road against Lawrie McMenemy's improving Southampton in a difficult fixture for the First Division new boys.

Each week we select ten matches and points are awarded depending on the accuracy of forecasts. Gary will be out to score more than his favourite player and qualify for a special 'Star Challenge' certificate.

Win or lose, every challenger receives a personally autographed picture of their favourite player.

If you would like to take part in 'Star Challenge' all you have to do is write in, enclosing your name, age and address —



England star Luther Blissett (right) and his challenger Gary Rumsey (left).

FIXTURES

Saturday, January 22

DIVISION ONE

Aston Villa v Man. City
Brighton v Luton
Coventry v Swansea
Liverpool v Birmingham
Man. Utd v Nott'm Forest
Norwich v Everton
Notts County v Arsenal
Stoke v Ipswich
Spurs v Sunderland
Watford v Southampton
West Ham v West Brom

DIVISION TWO

Burnley v Barnsley
Cambridge v Rotherham
C. Palace v QPR
Derby v Leeds
Fulham v Middlesbro'
Grimsby v Charlton
Leicester v Blackburn
Newcastle v Shrewsbury

Oldham v Bolton
Sheff. Wed. v Carlisle
Wolves v Chelsea

DIVISION THREE

Bournemouth v Millwall
Bradford v Wigan
Brentford v Orient
Cardiff v Walsall
Chesterfield v Reading
Doncaster v Southend
Gillingham v Wrexham
Huddersfield v Sheff. Utd
Lincoln v Bristol R.
Plymouth v Newport
Portsmouth v Oxford
Preston v Exeter

DIVISION FOUR

Aldershot v Torquay
Bristol C. v Northampton
Bury v Blackpool
Chester v Port Vale
Darlington v Halifax
Hartlepool v Hull
Mansfield v Hereford
Swindon v Rochdale
Wimbledon v Peterborough

SCOTTISH

PREMIER DIVISION

Aberdeen v Rangers
Celtic v Hibernian
Dundee Utd v St Mirren
Kilmarnock v Dundee
Morton v Motherwell

FIRST DIVISION

Airdrie v Queens Park
Clyde v Hamilton
Dumbarton v Alloa
Falkirk v Dunfermline
Hearts v Partick
Raith v Ayr
St Johnstone v Clydebank

SECOND DIVISION

Berwick v Brechin
Cowdenbeath v Arbroath
Forfar v Albion
Meadowbank v Stenhousemuir
Montrose v Stirling
Q of South v E. Stirling
Stranraer v East Fife

Sunday, January 23

DIVISION FOUR

York v Scunthorpe

Friday, January 28

DIVISION FOUR

Halifax v Swindon

Here are the ten selected matches for this week, together with the predictions of a lucky 'Match' reader and his famous opponent.

There's a space for you to fill in your predictions and a column for

the actual result.

Award two points for every correct score and one point if the result is correct (i.e. home win, away win, draw), but the scoreline is wrong.

	Gary's forecast	Luther's forecast	Your forecast	Result
Aston Villa v Man. City	1-1	2-0		
Brighton v Luton	1-2	1-1		
Coventry v Swansea	0-1	2-1		
Liverpool v Birmingham	3-0	3-0		
Man. Utd v Nott'm F.	2-2	1-1		
Norwich v Everton	2-1	0-0		
Notts County v Arsenal	0-1	0-1		
Stoke v Ipswich	2-0	1-0		
Spurs v Sunderland	2-1	2-0		
West Ham v W. Brom	2-1	3-1		



MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Monday, Jan. 3

Division Four

CHESTER (0) 1 (Thomas 75)
WIMBLEDON (0) 2 (Evans 50, Smith 76)
 Att: 1,549
Chester: Salmon 6, Dean 5 (sub. Cooke 6),
 Wilson 7, Moffat 5, Bradley 6, Needham 6,
 Sloan 7, Lane 7, Thomas 6, ★**LUCLAM** 8,
 Bulmer 5.
Wimbledon: Beasant 7, Peters 6, Ferns 5,
 Galliers 5, Smith 7, Hatter 6, Evans 6,
 ★**KETTERIDGE** 8, Leslie 6, Downes 7, Gage
 6.
Referee: N. Glover (Chorley)
Match Rating: ★★★

Saturday, Jan. 8

**Scottish Cup,
Second Round**

ALBION (0) 1 (Evans 65)
STRANRAER (0) 0
 Att: 300

BERWICK (2) 2 (Tait 18, McSherry 19)
STIRLING (0) 0
 Att: 709

BRORA RANGERS (0) 0
MONTROSE (0) 0
 Att: 720

EAST FIFE (1) 1 (Scott 23)
BRECHIN (0) 0
 Att: 949

ELGIN CITY (0) 5 (McHardy 51, Kellas 52,
 Armstrong 62, 78, Drews 80)
GALA FAIRYDEAN (0) 2 (Thomson 88,
 Lothian 89)
 Att: 1,180

FORFAR (3) 3 (Gallacher 32, McDonald 33,
 35)
INVERNESS CALEDONIAN (0) 0
 Att: 1,202

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH (1) 3 (McQueen 14,
 80, Alexander 74)
HAWICK (0) 0
 Att: 992

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1 (Murray 75)
ARBROATH (0) 0
 Att: 350

Tuesday, Jan. 11

**FA Cup, Third Round,
Replay**

BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Summerfield 92)
WALSALL (0) 0
After Extra Time
 Att: 14,774

Birmingham: Coton 7, Hagan 6, Dennis 6,
 Stevenson 7, Blake 6, ★**BROADHURST** 8,
 Dillon 7, Brazier 5 (sub. Summerfield 7),
 Ferguson 5, Curbishley 5, Handysides 6.
Walsall: Green 7, Caswell 6, Mower 6, Beech
 6, ★**SINNOTT** 8, Hart 7, Rees 6, Preece 6,
 Kearns 6 (sub. Round 6), Buckley 6, O'Kelly 6.
Referee: B. H. Daniels (Brentwood)
Match Rating: ★★

BISHOPS STORTFORD (1) 1 (Lynch 45)
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 2 (Shearer 54, 59)
 Att: 6,000

Bishops Stortford: ★**WELSH** 9, Wickenden
 7, Brown 7, Bradford 7, Elley 7, Hull 7, Avery
 7, Lynch 8, Worrell 8 (sub. Levey 7),
 Simmonds 6, Sullivan 6.
Middlesbrough: Platt 7, Brownlie 7, Ward 7,
 Baxter 7, Nattrass 7, Otto 7, Wood 7, Sugrue
 7, Shearer 8, Kennedy 7, ★**BELL** 9.
Referee: R. Chadwick (Darwen)
Match Rating: ★★★

BURNLEY (1) 3 (Flynn 16, Steven 80, Laws,
 pen 89)
CARLISLE (0) 1 (Poskett 51)
 Att: 9,439

Burnley: O'Rourke 6, Laws 6, Donachie 6,
 Holt 6, Phelan 6, Flynn 6, Scott 6 (sub.
 Wharton 6), Steven 8, Hamilton 7, Taylor 6,
 ★**YOUNG** 9.
Carlisle: Swinburne 6, Parker 6, Haigh 6,
 Ashurst 7, ★**RUSHBURY** 8, Houghton 6
 (sub. Lee), Coughlin 6, Craig 5, Poskett 6,
 Bannon 7, Shoulder 6.
Referee: R. Bridges (Deeside)
Match Rating: ★★★

The best results service in football

MATCH FACTS is the results service that's the talk of football, providing a remarkably detailed guide to League, League Cup and FA Cup matches in England and Scotland.

It is acknowledged as the best service of its kind by top football statisticians because...

● It is right up-to-date, bringing you all the previous week's games only four days after each Saturday's programme.

● It contains extra information, like star ratings for each player and entertainment values for each game.

● It includes League tables and the leading scorers in each division once the season gets underway.

And each month our player ratings determine the prestigious Matchman of the Month awards in each of the four English divisions plus the Scottish Premier.

No other publication provides such a service!

PLAYER RATINGS

- 10 Out of this world
- 9 Outstanding
- 8 Excellent
- 7 Good
- 6 Adequate
- 5 Off form
- 4 Poor

MATCH RATINGS

- ★★★★★ A classic
- ★★★★★ Good value
- ★★★★★ Satisfactory
- ★★★ Dull
- ★ A waste of money

EVERTON (1) 2 (Sharp 25, King 51)
NEWPORT (0) 1 (Aldridge 50)
 Att: 18,565

Everton: Arnold 6, Stevens 7, ★**BAILEY** 9,
 Ratcliffe 7, Higgins 7, McMahon 6, Heath 5,
 Sharp 7, King 7, Reid 6, Sheedy 6.
Newport: Kendall 5, Jones 6, Stroud 6,
 Bailey 7, Oakes 6, Boyle 5, Moore 5 (sub.
 Gwyther 5), ★**ALDRIDGE** 8, Tynan 7,
 Vaughan 7, Elsey 6.
Referee: B. Stevens (Stonehouse)
Match Rating: ★★★

GRIMSBY (1) 2 (Ford 1, Waters, pen 68)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 0
 Att: 9,509

Grimsby: Batch 7, Moore, D 7, Crombie 7,
 Waters 7, Stone 7, Moore, K 6, ★**FORD** 8,
 Whymark 6, Drinkell 6 (sub. Wilkinson),
 O'Dell 7, Bonnyman 6.
Scunthorpe: Neenan 6, Oates 6, Poinson 6,
 Fowler 6 (sub. Telfer), ★**BAINES** 8, Hunter 7,
 O'Berg 5, Cammack 6, Cowling 5, Angus 6,
 Parkinson 7.
Referee: A. Challinor (Rotherham)
Match Rating: ★★★

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (1) 2 (Smith 37,
 Megson 97)
SOUTHEND (1) 2 (Mercer 17, Pountney 108)
After Extra Time
 Att: 11,093

Sheff Wed: Bolder 7, Shirtliff, Peter 7,
 Matthewson 7, Smith 7, Lyons 6,
 ★**SHELTON** 8, Megson 7, Taylor 7,
 Bannister 7, McCulloch 5 (sub. Mirocevic 5),
 Pearson 5.
Southend: Cawston 7, Stead 7, Yates 7, Clark
 7, Hadley 7, ★**CUSACK** 8, Pountney 7,
 Phillips 7, Mercer 7, Otulakowski 6 (sub.
 Pennyfather), Nelson 6.
Referee: K. G. Salmon (Barnet)
Match Rating: ★★★

Wednesday, Jan. 12

**FA Cup, Third Round,
Replay**

CHELSEA (0) 2 (Bumstead 76, Fillery 88)
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0
 Att: 14,417

Chelsea: Francis 7, Lee 6, Jones 6, Chivers 5,
 Droy 6, Pates 6, Fillery 5, Bumstead 7,
 ★**SPEEDIE** 8, Mayes 7, Rhoades-Brown 6,
Huddersfield: Cox 7, Brown 6, Burke 6,
 Stanton 6, Sutton 6, Hanvey 6, Lillis 6,
 ★**DOYLE** 8 (sub. Pugh), Russell 5, Wilson 5,
 Cowling 5.
Referee: N. Midgley (Salford)
Match Rating: ★★★

MANCHESTER CITY (2) 2 (Hartford 14,
 Cross 39)
SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Chisholm 70)
 Att: 22,356

Man City: Corrigan 6, Ranson 6, Bond 7, Reid
 6, Power 6, Kinsey 6, Tueart 7, Reeves 6,
 Cross 6, ★**HARTFORD** 8, Bodak 6 (sub.
 McDonald).
Sunderland: Turner 5, ★**NICHOLL** 8,
 Pickering 6, Atkins 6, Chisholm 6, Elliott 6,
 Venison 6, Rowell 6, Worthington 5, Cooke 7
 (sub. McCoist 6), Cummings 5.
Referee: J. Worrall (Warrington)
Match Rating: ★★★

NEWCASTLE (0) 0
BRIGHTON (0) 1 (Ward 62)
 Att: 32,134

Newcastle: Carr 7, Anderson 6, Wharton 7,
 Martin 7, Clarke 7, Carney 6, ★**KEEGAN** 8,
 McDonald 6, Varadi 6, McDermott 6, Waddle
 7.
Brighton: Moseley 7, Ramsey 6, Pearce 7,
 Grealish 7, Gattling 6, Stevens 6, ★**CASE** 8,
 Ward 7, Robinson 7, Ritchie 7, Stille 6 (sub.
 Smillie 7).
Referee: T. Mills (Barnsley)
Match Rating: ★★★

STOKE (1) 3 (McAughtrie 43, Painter 48,
 Henderson, og 49)
SHEFFIELD UNITED (2) 2 (Edwards 39,
 Morris, pen 45)
 Att: 18,515

Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 7, Hampton 6, Bracewell
 6, ★**WATSON** 9, McAughtrie 8, Maguire 6,
 McIlroy 7, O'Callaghan 6, Thomas 7,
 Chamberlain 7 (sub. Painter 8).

Sheff Utd: Waugh 5, Henderson 5, Garner
 6, Charles 7, West 6 (sub. Brazil), Houston 7,
 Morris 7, Trusson 7, Edwards 7, ★**CURRAN**
 9, King 6.
Referee: B. Hill (Kettering)
Match Rating: ★★★

TORQUAY (1) 2 (Cooper 45, Gallagher 63)
OXFORD (0) 1 (Fogg, pen 68)
 Att: 6,402

Torquay: Horn 7, ★**DOYLE** 8, Wilson 7,
 Sheridan 6, Little 7, Hughes 6, Grapes 6,
 O'Donnell 7, Cooper 7, Anderson 6, Gallagher
 7.

Oxford: Butcher 6, Linney 6 (sub. Train 6),
 Smithers 6, Barnett 7, Fogg 6, Shotton 6,
 Lawrence 6, ★**FOLEY** 8, Vinter 5, Hebbard 5,
 Brock 7.
Referee: R. Lewis (Gt. Bookham)
Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

BRADFORD (1) 2 (Campbell 1, Gray 47)
ORIENT (1) 3 (Kitchen 9, Gray 72, Peach,
 pen 84)
 Att: 3,395

Bradford: McManus 6, Podd 7, Chapman 7,
 Lester 6 (sub. Mellor), Jackson 6, Cherry 6,
 Ellis 7, ★**GRAY** 8, Campbell 6, Yorath 6,
 McNiven 6.

Orient: Day 6, Roffey 7, Peach 7, Foster 6,
 Cunningham 6, Gray 6, Cornwell 6,
 ★**GODFREY** 8, Houchen 6, Kitchen 7,
 Sussex 7.
Referee: R. Nixon (Wirral)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Four

HARTLEPOOL (0) 0
PETERBOROUGH (0) 0
 Att: 1,161

Hartlepool: ★**BLACKBURN** 8, Smithies 5,
 Barker 5, Hogan 5, Bird 5, Linighan 6, Staff 7,
 Lawrence 6, Stalker 7, Brown 5, Johnson 7.
Peterborough: Seaman 7, Rayment 7, Collins
 5, Gynn 7, Firm 5, ★**SLACK** 8, Clarke 7,
 Chard 6, Cooke 4, Benjamin 5, Quow 6.
Referee: N. Glover (Chorley)
Match Rating: ★★

Friday, Jan. 14

Division Three

SOUTHEND (2) 3 (Mercer 16, Yates 26,
 Phillips 86)
PLYMOUTH (0) 1 (Phillips 85)
 Att: 3,082

Southend: ★**CAWSTON** 8, Stead 6, Yates 7,
 Clark 6, Hadley 7, Cusack 7, Pountney 7,
 Phillips 6, Mercer 6, Otulakowski 7 (sub.
 Pennyfather 6), Nelson 5.
Plymouth: Crudington 6, Nisbet 7, Uzzell 6,
 ★**PHILLIPS** 8, Smith 6, Cooper 6, Hodges 7,
 Cook 5, Sims 6, McCartney 5, Rogers 7.
Referee: M. Dimblebee (Stevenage)
Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

HALIFAX (2) 4 (Nuttall 32, Stanforth 34, 82,
 86)
COLCHESTER (0) 0
 Att: 1,863

Halifax: Smelt 7, Nobbs 6, Wood 6, Evans 7,
 Smith 7, Hendrie 7, Ward 7, Spooner 7,
 Allatt 7, Nuttall 7, ★**STANIFORTH** 8.
Colchester: Chamberlain 6, Cook 6, Ward 6,
 Longhorn 6, Wignall 7, ★**COLEMAN** 8,
 Allinson 6, Osborne 6, Linford 7, Adcock 7,
 Hull 7.
Referee: R. Guy (Kirkby)
Match Rating: ★★

Saturday, Jan. 15

Division One

ARSENAL (2) 3 (Rix 17, Petrovic 45, Hollins,
 pen 59)
STOKE (0) 0
 Att: 19,428

Arsenal: Jennings 7, Hollins 7, Sansom 7,
 ★**WHYTE** 9, O'Leary 7 (sub. Talbot), Nicholas
 6, Davis 8, Sunderland 6, Petrovic 7,
 Woodcock 7, Rix 8.

MATCHFACTS MATCHFACTS

Stoke: ★FOX 8, Parkin 5, Hampton 6, Bracewell 6, Watson 6, Chamberlain, N 7, Painter 6, McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 7, Thomas 7, Maskery 5 (sub. Ursem 5).
Referee: M. L. James (Sussex)
Match Rating: ★★

BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Dillon, pen 54)
MANCHESTER UNITED (0) 2 (Whiteside 50, Robson 55)
 Att: 19,333
 Birmingham: Coton 6, Hagan 6, Dennis 7, Stevenson 7, Blake 7, Broadhurst 7.
 ★DILLON 8, Summerfield 6, Harford 6, Curbishley 6, Handysides 6.
 Man Utd: ★BAILEY 8, Duxbury 6, Albiston 7, Moses 6, Moran 7, McQueen 6, Robson 7, Muhren 6, Stapleton 6, Whiteside 6, Coppell 7.
Referee: C. Thomas (Porthcawl)
Match Rating: ★★

EVERTON (0) 1 (Johnson 75)
WATFORD (0) 0
 Att: 19,233
 Everton: Arnold 7, Stevens 6, Bailey 7, Ratcliffe 6, Higgins 7, McMahon 7, ★HEATH 8, Sharp 6, King 7, Reid 5 (sub. Johnson), Sheedy 7.
 Watford: Sherwood 6, Rice 5, Rostron 6, Taylor 5, Sims 5, Bolton 5, Callaghan 6.
 ★BLISSETT 7, Jenkins 5 (sub. Lohman), Jackett 6, Barnes 6.
Referee: K. Hackett (Sheffield)
Match Rating: ★★

IPSWICH (1) 2 (Wark 20, Brazil 73)
BRIGHTON (0) 0
 Att: 17,092
 Ipswich: Sivell 6, Steggles 6, Gernon 6, ★THIJSEN 8, Osman 6, Butcher 7, Wark 6, McCall 5, Mariner 7, Sub. Putney, Brazil 6, Gates 6.
 Brighton: Moseley 7, Ramsey 6, Pearce 6, Greulich 7, ★GATING 8, Stevens 6, Case 5, Ward 6 (sub. Smith 6), Robinson 6, Ritchie 6, Smillie 6.
Referee: J. Bray (Hinckley)
Match Rating: ★★

MATCH WINNERS

SOCCER shirts autographed by four of the 'Match Weekly' columnists, Gordon Strachan, Steve Coppell, Graeme Souness and Glenn Hoddle, have been won by the following readers in our December 25 competition.

The lucky winners are Ronald MacDonell, Aberdeen; Martin Dando, Canvey Island; Martin Flack, High Wycombe, and James Brooker, Bromley.

THE following twelve winners in our December 25 'Pele' competition each receive a copy of the Pele Soccer Training Programme.

They are: Paul Burton, Hengoed, Mid-Glamorgan; Mark Hunter, Cloyfin, County Londonderry; Steven Ponsford, Horsham; Andrew Sunderland, Maidstone; J. P. Craig Waller, Woking; Steve Anderson, Burnley; John Carson, Sunderland; David Biggart, Kilbirnie, Ayrshire; Mathew Rhodes, Abingdon; David Edwards, Bradford; Simon Fry, Bristol; Colin McCollm, Withorn, Wigtownshire.

PAIRS of Footwear's 'Roma' football boots are on the way to the following ten winners in our January 1 competition.

The winners are: Matthew Baker, Crawley; Barry Cope, Tamworth; Anthony Hollis, Peterborough; Kenny Dykes, Bournemouth; Simon Wright, Moseley; Andrew Portlock, Banbury; Chris Buckland, Worksop; Andrew Barham, Romford; Paul Brown, Hull; Andrew Jarvis, Bracknell.

THE December 25 winners in our 'Programme Parade' competition each receive a set of testimonial programmes.

They are: Mark Roat, East Grinstead; Sean Phillips, Leominster; Deborah Jinks, St Austell; Jeremy Smith, Bognor Regis; Leighton Davis, Swansea.

A SET of of England v Northern Ireland programmes have been won by the following five readers in our January 1 'Programme Parade' competition.

They are: Emma Springett, Reading; Simon Brodikin, London; Graham Jony, Bodmin; Ian Lewis, Clophill, Beds; Tony Holmes, Carnforth, Lancs.

LUTON (1) 1 (O'Reilly, og 35)
TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Hoddle 72)
 Att: 21,231
 Luton: Findlay 8, Stephens 7, Thomas 7, ★HORTON 9, Goodyear 8, Donaghy 7, Hill 8, Bunn 6, Walsh 7, Turner 7, Watts 6 (sub. Kellock).
 Spurs: Clemence 8, Hughton 7, O'Reilly 6, Roberts 6, ★BROOKE 9, Perryman 7, Ardiles 8, Archibald 5, Gibson 7 (sub. Hoddle), Villa 8, Mabbutt 7.
Referee: M. Heath (Stoke)
Match Rating: ★★

MANCHESTER CITY (3) 4 (Cross 8, 32, Bond 14, Hartford 84)
NORWICH (1) 1 (O'Neill 35)
 Att: 22,000
 Man City: Corrigan 6, Ranson 6, Bond 7, Reid 6, Power 6, Kinsey 6, Tueart 6, Reeves 6, Cross 7, Hartford 7, ★BODAK 8.
 Norwich: Woods 6, Haylock 5 (sub. Channon 5), Downs 5, Mendham 6, Walford 6, Hareide 6, Barham 6, ★O'NEILL 8, Deehan 6, Bertschin 5, Van Wyk 5.
Referee: R. Bridges (Deeside)
Match Rating: ★★

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (0) 1 (Wallace 74)
WEST HAM (0) 0
 Att: 17,031
 Nott'm Forest: Sutton 6, Swain 6, Gunn 7, Todd 7, Young 7, Bowyer 5, Proctor 5, ★WALLACE 8, Birtles 7, Hodge 6, Robertson 7.
 West Ham: ★PARKES 8, Stewart 5 (sub. Gallagher 5), Lampard 6, Bonds 6, Martin 7, Devonshire 5, Van der Elst 5, Goddard 6, Clark 6, Allen 5, Pike 6.
Referee: P. Tyldesley (Stockport)
Match Rating: ★★

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Armstrong 38)
COVENTRY (1) 1 (Hateley 1)
 Att: 17,145
 Southampton: Shilton 7, Agboola 6, ★MILLS 8, Williams 7, Nicholl 6, Wright 6, Holmes 6, Foyle 6, Moran 6, Armstrong 7, Wallace 6.
 Coventry: Sealey 7, Thomas 7, Hormantschuk 6, Butterworth 6, Dyson 6, ★GILLESPIE 8, Whittom 6, Francis 7, Hateley 6, Melrose 6 (sub. Thompson 6), Hunt 6.
Referee: J. Moules (Ongar)
Match Rating: ★★

SUNDERLAND (1) 2 (McNaught, og 27, Worthington 48)
ASTON VILLA (0) 0
 Att: 16,052
 Sunderland: ★TURNER 9, Nicholl 8, Munro 8, Atkins 7, Chisholm 7, Pickering 8, Venison 7, West 6, Worthington 8 (sub. McCoist 7), James 7, Cummins 7.
 Aston Villa: Spink 7, Jones 7, Williams 7, Evans 7, McNaught 7, Mortimer 8, Bremner 8, Walters 6, Withe 6, ★COWANS 9, Morley 7.
Referee: N. Wilson (Morecambe)
Match Rating: ★★

SWANSEA (0) 2 (Gale 80, Latchford 84)
NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0
 Att: 8,992
 Swansea: Davies 6, Robinson 6, Hadziabdic 7, Charles 6, Stevenson 7, Rajkovic 7, Curtis 6, James 7, Mahoney 5, Stanley 5 (sub. ★GALE 8), Latchford 6.
 Notts County: Avramovic 6, Benjamin 7, Worthington 6, Hunt 6, Kilcline 6, Richards 6, McParland 7 (sub. Christie 6), Fashanu 5, McCulloch 6, ★GOODWIN 8, Mair 6.
Referee: D. Lloyd (Worcester)
Match Rating: ★★

WEST BROM (0) 0
LIVERPOOL (0) 1 (Rush 89)
 Att: 24,560
 West Brom: Barron 6, Whitehead 7, Statham 6, ★ZONDERVAN 8, Wile 6, Robertson 7, Jol 6, Bennett 7, Regis 6, Owen 6, Eastoe 6.
 Liverpool: Grobbelaar 6, Neal 6, Kennedy 7, ★LAWRENSON 8, Johnston 7, Hansen 7, Dalglish 7, Lee 7, Rush 6, Hodgson 6, Souness 7.
Referee: T. Bune (Berkshire)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Two

BARNLEY (2) 3 (Glavin 6, 24, Cunningham 66)
CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 1 (Jones 49)
 Att: 10,120
 Barnley: Pierce 7, Joyce 7, Chambers 7, Glavin 7, Banks 7, McCarthy 7, Law 7, Parker 7, Ronson 7, ★CUNNINGHAM 8, Birch 7.

Crystal Palace: ★FRY 8, Locke 5, Lovell 6, Nebbeling 6, Cannon 6, Hinshelwood 6, Giles 5, Hughton 7, Jones 6, Langley 5 (sub. Edwards 5), Hilaire 7.
Referee: D. Civil (Birmingham)
Match Rating: ★★

BLACKBURN (2) 2 (Branagan 30, Keeley 43)
WOLVES (0) 2 (Matthews 55, Dodd 62)
 Att: 7,401
 Blackburn: Gennoe 6, Branagan 6, Rathbone 5, Stonehouse 5 (sub. Comstive 4), ★MAIL 7, Keeley 6, Miller 6, Arnott 5, Bell 5, Garner 6, Lowey 6.
 Wolves: Burridge 5, Humphrey 6, Palmer 5, Smith 6, ★PENDER 7, Dodd 6, Hibbitt 6, Clarke 6, Gray 5, Eves 6, Matthews 6.
Referee: A. Challinor (Rotherham)
Match Rating: ★★

BOLTON (2) 3 (Henry 16, Hoggan 31, McDonagh 80)
BURNLEY (0) 0
 Att: 8,094
 Bolton: McDonagh 7, Whitworth 7, ★DEAKIN 8, Henry 7, Jones 7, Doyle 7, Chandler 7, Whatmore 6, Foster 7, Hoggan 6, Thompson 7.
 Burnley: O'Rourke 5, Laws 6, Donachie 5, Holt 5, Phelan 6, Flynn 6, Scott 5, Steven 6, ★HAMILTON 7, Taylor 5, Young 5.
Referee: L. M. Robinson (Sutton Coldfield)
Match Rating: ★★

CARLISLE (2) 3 (Bannon 16, Poskett 41, Shoulder 50)
DERBY (0) 0
 Att: 4,732
 Carlisle: Swinburne 7, Parker 7, Haigh 6, Ashurst 7, Larkin 7, Craig 6, ★STANFORTH 8, Coughlin 6 (sub. Houghton 6), Poskett 7, Bannon 7, Shoulder 7.
 Derby: Cherry 6, Barton 6, Attley 6, McAlle 7, Foster 6, Blades 6 (sub. Skivington 7), Brolly 6, Davison 7, Richards 7, Swindlehurst 6, ★MILLS 8.
Referee: A. Robinson (Manchester)
Match Rating: ★★

CHARLTON (0) 2 (Simonsen 52, 84)
LEICESTER (0) 1 (Wilson 85)
 Att: 5,971
 Charlton: Johns 8, Gritt 6, Aizlewood 6, McAllister 7, Elliott 7, Berry 6, ★SIMONSEN 9, Harris 8, Hales 5, Bullivant 7, Robinson 7.
 Leicester: Wallington 7, ★RAMSEY 8, Smith 6, McDonald 7, May 6, O'Neill 6, Lynex 7, Lineker 7, Smith, A 7, Kelly 7 (sub. Robson), Wilson 7.
Referee: E. A. Crickmore (Plymouth)
Match Rating: ★★

CHELSEA (2) 6 (Jones 40, Fillery 44, 60, Bumstead 63, Murray, og 65, Mayes 80)
CAMBRIDGE (0) 0
 Att: 7,808
 Chelsea: Francis 6, Lee 7, Jones 8, Chivers 6, Pates 7, Hales 7, ★FILLERY 9, Bumstead 8 (sub. Walker), Speedie 8, Mayes 8, Rhoades-Brown 8.
 Cambridge: Webster 5, Donaldson 5, Murray 6, Turner 5 (sub. Nicholls 6), Fallon 6, O'Neill 5, ★CARTWRIGHT 7, Sinton 6, Finney 5, Mayo 5, Fisher 5.
Referee: B. Stevens (Stonehouse)
Match Rating: ★★

LEEDS (0) 1 (Butterworth 46)
GRIMSBY (0) 0
 Att: 13,583
 Leeds: Lukic 8, Aspin 7, ★GRAY, E 9 (sub. Hird), Sheridan 6, Hart 6, Burns 7, McNab 6, Connor 6, Butterworth 6, Gray, F 7, Graham 7.
 Grimsby: Batch 7, Moore, D 6, Crombie 6, ★WATERS 8, Stone 6, Moore, K 7, Ford 7, Whymark 6, Drinkell 6, Bonnyman 7, O'Dell 6.
Referee: J. D. Hough (Macclesfield)
Match Rating: ★★

Sending Off: Sheridan (Leeds), O'Dell (Grimsby)
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 1 (Bell 74)
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (0) 1 (Pearson 86)
 Att: 11,863
 Middlesbrough: O'Hanlon 7, Brownlie 6, Bolton 6, Baxter 6, Nattrass 7, Otto 7 (sub. Hankin 6), Wood 6, Sugrue 6, Shearer 6, Kennedy 6, ★BELL 8.
 Sheff Wed: Bolder 7, Sterland 7, Bailey 6, Smith 6, Lyons 7, Shelton 7, ★MEGSON 8, Taylor 6 (sub. Owen), Bannister 6, Pearson 6, Heard 6.
Referee: J. B. Worrall (Warrington)
Match Rating: ★★

QPR (0) 2 (Gregory 51, 80)
NEWCASTLE (0) 0
 Att: 13,972

QPR: Hucker 6, Neill 6, Dawes 6, Waddock 7, Hazell 6, Fenwick 7, ★MICKLEWHITE 8, Sealy 6, Allen 7, Flanagan 6, Gregory 7.
Newcastle: Carr 7, Anderson 6, ★WHARTON 8, Martin 6, Clarke 6, Carney 6, Keegan 6, McDonald 7, Varadi 6 (sub. Ferris), McDermott 6, Waddle 6.
Referee: K. Burden (Poole)
Match Rating: ★★

ROTHERHAM (0) 0
FULHAM (1) 1 (Brown 33)
 Att: 7,667
 Rotherham: Mountford 7, Forrest 6, Henson 6, Seasman 6, Hughes 6, Green 6, Towner 7 (sub. Fern 7), Lodge 6, Moore 7, Walker 6, ★MCBRIDE 8.
 Fulham: Peyton 6, ★HOPKINS 8, Parker 7, O'Driscoll 7, Brown 7, Gale 6, Davies 7, Wilson 7, Coney 6, Houghton 6, Lewington 6.
Referee: N. H. Glover (Chorley)
Match Rating: ★★

SHERWSBURY (0) 0
OLDHAM (0) 0
 Att: 4,630
 Shrewsbury: Ogrizovic 6, Williams 7, Johnson 6, Petts 6, Pearson 7, Griffin 6, Cross 7, MacLaren 7, Brown 6, ★MCNALLY 8, Stevens 6 (sub. Bates 6).
 Oldham: Goram 7, Hoolickin 5, Ryan 7, Keegan 6, Clements 6, ★FUTCHER 8, Heaton 5, Atkinson 6, McDonough 5, Wylde 5, Palmer 5.
Referee: D. Brazier (Northampton)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Three

BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 2 (Carter 53, Randall 75)
BRENTFORD (0) 0
 Att: 5,449
 Bristol Rovers: Kite 6, Sherwood 6, Slatter 5, Pulis 6 (sub. Platnauer 7), Parkin 7, McCaffery 6, Curle 6, Carter 7, ★STEPHENS 8, Randall 7, Barrett 5.
 Brentford: Roche 6, Rowe 6, Wilkins 6, Booker 7, ★WHITEHEAD 8, Hurlock 6, Kamara 6, Joseph 5, Walker 6, Bowles 6, Roberts 6 (sub. Bowen 6).
Referee: H. King (Merthyr)
Match Rating: ★

EXETER (2) 3 (McEwan, pen 17, Neville 23, Rogers, M 70)
HUDDERSFIELD (2) 4 (Lillis 3, Wilson 14, Stanton 53, Cowling 80)
 Att: 2,882
 Exeter: Bond 7, Sparrow 5 (sub. Pratt), Viney 6, Rogers, M 6, Marker 5, McEwan 6, Neville 7, Rogers, P 6, ★GIBSON 8, Delve 7, Pullar 5.
 Huddersfield: Cox 6, Brown 5, Burke 6, Stanton 6, Sutton 6, Hanvey 7, ★LILLIS 9, Doyle 6, Russell 5 (sub. Pugh 7), Wilson 6, Cowling 8.
Referee: K. Cooper (Swindon)
Match Rating: ★★

MILLWALL (1) 1 (O'Riordan, og 6)
PRESTON (0) 0
 Att: 2,816
 Millwall: Sansome 7, Stevens 6, Stride 7, Madden 7, Allardye 6, Roberts 6, Shinton 6, Neal 7, Aylott 7, Martin 7.
 ★CHATTERTON 8.
 Preston: ★LITCHFIELD 8, O'Riordan 5, McAteer 6, Gowling 7, Booth 6, Buckley 6, Kelly 5, Bruce 6, Bell 7, Naughton 6, Houston 5.
Referee: L. C. Shapter (Torquay)
Match Rating: ★★

NEWPORT (0) 1 (Gwyther 83)
DONCASTER (2) 2 (Lister 5, Humphries 43)
 Att: 3,482
 Newport: Kendall 6, Davies 5 (sub. Gwyther 7), Relish 5, Bailey 6, Oakes 6, Boyle 7, ★STROUD 8, Aldridge 7, Tynan 7, Vaughan 7, Moore 6.
 Doncaster: Peacock 7, Russell 6, Watson 6, Snodin 17, Humphries 7, Wiggington 6, Mell 7, Lister 7, Austin 7, ★SNODIN, G 8, Robertson 7.
Referee: E. Scales (Ware) replaced by (G. R. Knight (Bristol))
Match Rating: ★★

ORIENT (0) 2 (Peach, pen 64, Kitchen 84)
CHESTERFIELD (0) 0
 Att: 2,642
 Orient: Day 7, Roffey 6, ★PEACH 8, Foster 7, Cunningham 7, Cornwell 6, Gray 7, Godfrey 6, Houchen 6, Kitchen 7, Sussex 6.

MATCHFACTS MATCHFACTS

Chesterfield: Gregory 6, Bellamy 6, Partridge 5 (sub. Ivey), Wilson 7, Green 6, Pollard 7, Plummer 6. ***WINDRIDGE 8**, Henderson 6, Kowalski 7, Kendal 6.
Referee: R. G. Milford (Avon)
Match Rating: ★★

OXFORD (0) 1 (Lawrence 65)
GILLINGHAM (1) 1 (Weatherly 25)
Att: 4,755
Oxford: Butcher 6, Fogg 6, Grant 6, ***TRAIN 8**, Briggs 6, Shotton 7, Lawrence 6, Foley 6, Vinter 6, Hebbard 7 (sub. Barnett 6), Smithers 6.
Gillingham: Hodge 6, Sharpe 6, Adams 5, Bruce 6, Shaw 6 (sub. Sittion 5). ***TYDEMAN 7**, Price 6, Handford 5, White 6, Weatherly 6, Cascarino 5.
Referee: T. J. Holbrook (Wolverhampton)
Match Rating: ★★

READING (1) 2 (Matthews 26, Doherty 46)
BRADFORD (0) 1 (McCall 62)
Att: 2,050
Reading: Judge 6, Richardson 7, White 6, Beavon 7, Hicks 7, Wood 6, Matthews 7, Earles 6. ***WILLIAMS 8**, Bason 6, Doherty 6.
Bradford: Ramsbottom 6, Podd 6, Chapman 6, Lester 6, Jackson 6, Cherry 7, Yorath 7, ***GRAY 8**, Campbell 6, McNiven 6 (sub. McCall 7), Mellor 7.
Referee: I. J. Borrett (Fressingfield)
Match Rating: ★★

SHEFFIELD UNITED (0) 2 (Morris 55, 77)
PORTSMOUTH (0) 1 (Aizlewood, pen 84)
Att: 12,907
Sheff Utd: Waugh 7, Henderson 6, Garner 7, ***BRAZIL 8**, West 6, Houston 7, Morris 7, Trusson 5, Edwards 6, Curran 7, King 5.
Portsmouth: Knight 7, McLaughlin 6, Sullivan 6, Doyle 6, Howe 7, Aizlewood 7, Webb 7, Tait 7, ***RAFFERTY 8**, Biley 6, Rogers 5.
Referee: K. A. Redfern (Whitley Bay)
Match Rating: ★★

WALSALL (2) 3 (Kearns 21, pen 27, Buckley 49)
BOURNEMOUTH (1) 1 (Lee 3)
Att: 2,735
Walsall: Green 7, Caswell 7, Mower 6, Beech 7, Sinnott 6, Hart 7, Rees 7, ***PREECE 8**, Kearns 7, Buckley 7, Shakespeare 6.
Bournemouth: Allen 6, Heffernan 6, Sulley 7, ***SPACKMAN 8**, Brignull 7, Impey 7, Neighbour 7, Madden 6, Morgan 7, Lee 7, Funnell 6.
Referee: J. Deakin (Bedford)
Match Rating: ★★

WIGAN (2) 2 (Lowe 9, Barrow 25)
LINCOLN (1) 1 (Burke 15)
Att: 4,731
Wigan: Tunks 8, McMahon 7, Walsh 8, Methven 7, Cribley 7, Glenn 7, Lowe 8, ***BARROW 9**, Butler 7, O'Keefe 6, Weston 6.
Lincoln: Felgate 6, Simmonite 6, Peake 6, Thompson 6, Neale 6, Burke 7, Turner 7, Hibberd 7, Cockerill 7, Hobson 6, ***SHIPLEY 8**.
Referee: D. Hutchinson (Harrogate)
Match Rating: ★★

WREXHAM (0) 0
CARDIFF (0) 0
Att: 3,846
Wrexham: Niedzwiecki 7, King 7, Bater 7, Savage 7, Downman 7, Keay 6, Arkwright 7, ***GREGORY 8**, Hunt 6, Bremner 6, Buxton 6.
Cardiff: Dibble 8, Jones 6, Mullen 7, Tong 7, ***DWYER 9**, Bennett 7, G 7, Bennett 7, Gibbins 6, Hutton 6, Hemmerman 7, Lewis 6.
Referee: K. W. Baker (Rugby)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Four

BLACKPOOL (0) 2 (Woodhead, og 60, Richardson, 163)
MANSFIELD (0) 1 (Nicholson 77)
Att: 2,217
Blackpool: Hesford 7, ***BARDSLEY 8**, Pritchett 6, Deary 6, Hetzke 6, Serella 7, Richardson 7, Richardson 17, Stewart 6, Pashley 6, Downes 7.
Mansfield: Arnold 6, Woodhead 6, Kennedy 6, ***MATTHEWS 8**, Ayre 6, Bird 7, Gallagher 6, Hutchinson 7, Nicholson 7, Caldwell 7, Bell 6.
Referee: J. Lovatt (Crewe)
Match Rating: ★★

CREWE (2) 3 (Cliss 38, Waller 44, Bancroft 77)
CHESTER (0) 2 (Thomas 67, Cooke 79)
Att: 2,895
Crewe: Smith 6, Moore 6, Bowers 7, Metcalfe 7, Scott 6, Hart 6, ***HASLEGRAVE 8**, Bancroft 7, Waller 6, Evans 6, Cliss 7.
Chester: Salmon 6, Workman 6, Lane 6, ***STORTON 8**, Zelem 6, Wilson 7, Ludlam 6, Cooke 6, Thomas 7, Simpson 6, Sloan 6.
Referee: J. Key (Rotherham)
Match Rating: ★★

HEREFORD (0) 0
BURY (0) 2 (Gore 71, Madden 75)
Att: 1,920
Hereford: Rose 7, Price 7, Bray 7, Hicks 6, ***PEJIC 8**, Ross 7, Harvey 6, Bartley 6, Phillips 6, Showers 5 (sub. Lane 4), White 5.
Bury: Brown 7, Gardner 6, Davies 6, Gore 7, ***BRAMHALL 8**, Halliday 7, Firth 7, Madden 7, Parker 7, Jakub 7, Potts 5 (sub. Cutler 7).
Referee: J. E. Martin (Alton)
Match Rating: ★★

HULL (0) 1 (Mutrie 79)
BRISTOL CITY (0) 0
Att: 7,035
Hull: Davies 6, Swann 6, Askew 5, Roberts, D 6, Skipper 7, Booth 6, Marwood 6, McClaren 7, Whitehurst 6 (sub. McNeil 5), Mutrie 6, ***ROBERTS 8**.
Bristol City: Shaw 6, Williams 6, G 7, Johnson 6, ***NICHOLLS 8**, Phillips-Masters 7, Riley 5, Garland 6, Ritchie 5, Cooper 7, Chandler 5, Crawford 6.
Referee: T. Mills (Barnsley)
Match Rating: ★★

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Brady 17, Saunders 56)
WIMBLEDON (2) 2 (Leslie 18, 44)
Att: 2,290
Northampton: Freeman 7, Tucker 6, Phillips 6, Gage 7, Brady 7, Coffill 6, ***SAUNDERS 8**, Muir 6, Syrett 6, Massey 6, Saxby 6.
Wimbledon: Beasant 7, Peters 7, Morris 6, Galliers 6, Smith 6, Hatter 7, Evans 6, Ketteridge 6, ***LESLIE 8** (sub. Entwistle), Downes 6, Gage 7.
Referee: V. Callow (Solihull)
Match Rating: ★★

PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Benjamin 12)
STOCKPORT (0) 0
Att: 2,911
Peterborough: Seaman 6, Rayment 6, Collins 7, Linton 6, Firm 7, Slack 6, Clarke 6, Chard 6, Cooke 6, ***BENJAMIN 8**, Imlach 6.
Stockport: Lloyd 6, Thorpe 6, Rutter 5 (sub. Coyle 5), ***EMERSON 8**, Sword 6, Bowles 7, Smith 6, Phillips 7, Quinn 6, Power 5, Williams 6.
Referee: D. Letts (Basingstoke)
Match Rating: ★★

PORT VALE (1) 3 (Moss 27, Newton 70, 80)
SWINDON (0) 0
Att: 6,397
Port Vale: Southall 6, Tartt 6, Bromage 7, Hunter 7, Sproson 7, Cegielski 7, Fox 8, Moss 7, ***NEWTON 9**, Greenhoff 6 (sub. Ridley), Armstrong 8.
Swindon: Allan 6, Baverstock 5, Bailey 5, Hughes 7, Lewis 7, Graham 7, ***PRITCHARD 8**, Batty 5, Rideout 7, Rowland 6, Barnard 7.
Referee: D. Scott (Burnley)
Match Rating: ★★

ROCHDALE (1) 1 (Farrell 20)
DARLINGTON (0) 1 (McLean 90)
Att: 1,233
Rochdale: Pearce 7, Nicholson 6, Snookes 6, Farrell 7, McElhinney 6, Williams 7, ***THOMPSON 8**, Greaves 6, French 6, Hilditch 6, Martinez 5.
Darlington: Cuff 6, Liddle 6, Wilson 6, Smith 7, ***RHODES 8**, Kamara 6, Gilbert 7 (sub. Young 6), McLean 6, Honour 6, Walsh 7, McFadden 7.
Referee: D. Owen (Wirral)
Match Rating: ★★

TORQUAY (0) 1 (Burke 77)
YORK (2) 3 (Byrne 13, Walwyn 19, Pollard 60)
Att: 2,738
Torquay: Horn 6, Doyle 5, Wilson 6, Sheridan 5 (sub. Bishop 6), ***LITTLE 7**, Hughes 5, Grapes 5, O'Donnell 6, Cooper 6, Anderson 5, Gallagher 5.
York: Jones 6, Evans 6, Hay 6, Sbragia 6, Smith 6, Hood 6, Ford 7, Crosby 7, Walwyn 7, ***BYRNE 8**, Pollard 7.
Referee: T. Spencer (Salisbury)
Match Rating: ★★

TRANMERE v ALDERSHOT — Match Postponed



Ian Wallace was Nottingham Forest's match winner against West Ham with a spectacular overhead kick.

MATCHFACTS MATCHFACTS

SCOTTISH Premier Division

DUNDEE (3) 3 (Ferguson 15, Sinclair 17, Stephen 19)
MORTON (1) 3 (Payne 42, Rooney 70, 78)
Att: 4,557

Dundee: Kelly 6, McGeachie 5 (sub. Scrimgeour 6), Smith 6 (sub. Murphy 5), MacDonald 6, McKimmie 5, **FRASER 8**, Bell 7, Stephen 6, Mackie 7, Sinclair 6, Ferguson 7.

Morton: Baines 6, Houston 6, McLaughlin 6, Duffy 6, Holmes 5, Gibson 6, Cochran 6, **ROONEY 8** (sub. Slaven), Hutchison 6, Payne 7, McNab 7.

Referee: W. P. Knowles (Inverurie)
Match Rating: ★★

HIBERNIAN (0) 0
DUNDEE UNITED (0) 0
Att: 5,500

Hibs: Rough 7, Sneddon 5, Turnbull 5, Welsh 7, Rae 5, McNamara 7, Conroy 6, **RICE 8**, Duncan 6, Thomson 5 (sub. Irvine), Murray 6.
Dundee Utd: **MCALPINE 7**, Holt 5, Phillip 5, Gough 6, Hegarty 6, Narey 6, Bannion 6, Britton 5 (sub. Stark), Reilly 5 (sub. Milne 5), Sturrock 6, Dodds 6.

Referee: A. Ferguson (Giffnock)
Match Rating: ★★

MOTHERWELL (0) 2 (McClair, pen 47, 89)
CELTIC (1) 1 (MacLeod 23)
Att: 15,390

Motherwell: Walker 7, Dornan 7, MacLeod 6 (sub. Coyne 6), Carson 5, Edvaldsen 6, Mauchlen 7, **MCCLAIR 8**, Rafferty 7, Harrow 6, Forbes 6, O'Hara 7.
Celtic: Bonner 7, McGrain 7, Reid 7, Aitken 7, Sinclair 6, Sullivan 6, Provan 5, McStay 6, **McGARVEY 8**, MacLeod 7, McCluskey 7.
Referee: L. Thow (Ayr)
Match Rating: ★★

RANGERS (0) 1 (MacDonald 79)
KILMARNOCK (0) 1 (McGivern 66)
Att: 8,500

Rangers: McCloy 6, McKinnon 5 (sub. McPherson 6), McClelland 6, Stevens 6, Redford 5, Bett 6, Prytz 6 (sub. **MacDONALD 7**), Black 6, Cooper 5, Johnstone 5, Kennedy 5.
Kilmarnock: McCulloch 6, **McDICKEN 8**, Armstrong 6, Clarke 6, Clark, R 5, Clark, J 5, MacLeod 4, Simpson 6, Clinging 7, McGivern 7, Gallagher 5.

Referee: J. Duncan (Edinburgh)
Match Rating: ★★

ST MIRREN (1) 1 (Scanlon 45)
ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Black 65)
Att: 4,530

St Mirren: Thomson 7, Wilson 6, **WALKER 8**, Fulton 7, Clarke 5, Stark 6, Richardson 6, Abercromby 6, McDougall 7, McAvennie 7, Scanlon 6.
Aberdeen: Leighton 7, Kennedy 6, McLeish 6, Miller 7, Rougiev 6, Watson 5 (sub. Black 7), Simpson 6 (sub. McMaster 6), **BELL 8**, Strachan 6, McGhee 6, Weir 7.
Referee: A. Waddell (Edinburgh)
Match Rating: ★★

First Division

AIRDRIE (1) 2 (Martin 1, Jarvie 89)
ST JOHNSTONE (0) 0
Att: 2,040

ALLOA (0) 0
HEARTS (0) 0
Att: 2,591

AYR (1) 4 (Frye 29, 85, McAllister 80, Christie 87)
FALKIRK (0) 0
Att: 1,107

CLYDEBANK (0) 1 (Coyne 48)
PARTICK (1) 3 (Whittaker 33, Park 61, Johnston 74)
Att: 1,750

HAMILTON (0) 0
DUMBARTON (0) 3 (Blair 74, 83, Donnelly 89)
Att: 724

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 2 (Nicholson 14, Quinn 55)
DUNFERMLINE (1) 2 (Rodier 27, Forrest 88)
Att: 644

RAITH (0) 1 (Smith 65)
CLYDE (1) 2 (O'Neill 16, Reilly 62)
Att: 1,200

Second Division

ALBION (1) 1 (Evans 6)
ARBROATH (0) 3 (Ross 54, Gavine 63, Steele 89)
Att: 300

BERWICK (0) 2 (Porter 55, Grady 80)
STENHOUSEMUIR (3) 4 (Caldwell 15, McCann, og 21, Murray 35, 50)
Att: 553

BRECHIN (3) 4 (Mackie 25, Elvin 29, pen 43, pen 82)
STRANRAER (0) 2 (Sweeney 56, McDonald 85)
Att: 300

COWDENBEATH (2) 3 (Liddle 12, Gibson 44, 84)
MEADOWBANK (0) 1 (Smith 80)
Att: 350

EAST STIRLING (0) 0
EAST FIFE (1) 3 (Kirk 42, Caithness 81, Scott 88)
Att: 250

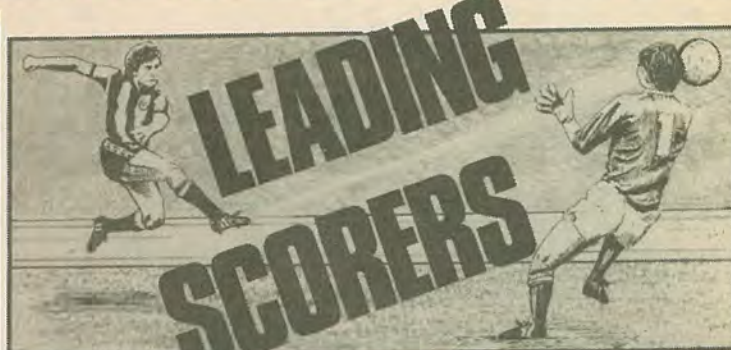
FORFAR (0) 0
STIRLING (0) 0
Att: 930

Scottish Cup Second Round, Replay

MONTROSE (1) 1 (Nicoll 32)
BRORA RANGERS (0) 1 (McAskill, B 54)
After Extra Time
Att: 400



Bryan Robson... scored
Manchester United's winner at
Birmingham



(League, Cups, Total)

Division One

Rush (Liverpool)	19	3	22
Latchford (Swansea)	13	4	17
Stein (Luton)	14	1	15
Wark (Ipswich)	11	3	14
Dalglish (Liverpool)	13	0	13
Blissett (Watford)	11	2	13
Wallace (Nott'm Forest)	9	4	13
Walsh (Luton)	10	1	11
Birtles (Nott'm Forest)	7	4	11
Rowell (Sunderland)	9	2	11
Deehan (Norwich)	10	1	11
Cross (Man City)	10	1	11
Woodcock (Arsenal)	9	1	10
Whitton (Coventry)	8	2	10
Melrose (Coventry)	8	2	10
(1 with Leicester)			
Regis (West Brom)	8	2	10
Stewart (West Ham)	7	3	10
Clark (West Ham)	7	3	10
Crooks (Spurs)	7	3	10

Division Two

Drinkell (Grimsby)	13	5	18
Lineker (Leicester)	17	0	17
Glavin (Barnsley)	12	5	17
Davies (Fulham)	15	1	16
Garner (Blackburn)	14	1	15
Shoulder (Carlisle)	14	0	14
Davison (Derby)	11	3	14
(12 with Halifax)			
Bannister (Sheff Wed)	13	1	14
Keegan (Newcastle)	13	0	13
Eves (Wolves)	12	1	13
Poskett (Carlisle)	11	2	13

Division Three

Dixon (Reading)	21	0	21
Bell (Lincoln)	17	3	20
Campbell (Bradford)	14	5	19
Joseph (Brentford)	17	2	19
Hemmerman (Cardiff)	14	4	18
Biley (Portsmouth)	14	3	17
Elliott (Preston)	13	4	17
Tynan (Newport)	10	6	16
Randall (Bristol Rovers)	13	2	15
Edwards (Sheff. Utd.)	5	10	15
Morris (Sheff. Utd.)	10	5	15
Mahoney (Brentford)	8	6	14

Division Four

Leslie (Wimbledon)	14	2	16
Massey (Northampton)	12	4	16
Rowland (Swindon)	12	4	16
Bamber (Blackpool)	10	5	15
Allinson (Colchester)	13	2	15
Quinn (Stockport)	15	0	15
Cooper (Torquay)	11	4	15
Madden (Bury)	13	1	14
Rideout (Swindon)	11	3	14
Walwyn (York)	11	3	14
Thomas (Chester)	13	0	13
Gynn (Peterborough)	9	4	13

SCOTTISH Premier Division

Nicholas (Celtic)	17	13	30
Dodds (Dundee Utd)	11	5	16
McGhee (Aberdeen)	10	4	14
MacDonald (Rangers)	6	8	14

LEAGUE TABLES

Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	24	10	2	0	40	12	6	3	3	19	9	53
Man United	24	8	4	0	22	5	4	3	5	11	14	43
Nott'm Forest	24	9	2	1	23	8	4	2	6	17	23	43
Watford	24	9	2	1	28	7	3	2	7	14	19	40
Coventry	24	9	2	1	21	7	2	3	7	12	23	38
West Ham	24	8	1	3	28	14	4	0	8	14	22	37
Aston Villa	24	9	1	2	27	11	2	1	9	7	22	35
Man City	24	8	3	1	20	10	2	2	8	13	27	35
Ipswich	24	6	1	5	21	15	3	6	3	18	14	34
Tottenham	24	8	2	2	30	12	2	2	8	5	22	34
Everton	24	7	4	1	25	12	2	2	8	14	20	33
West Brom	24	7	3	2	25	12	2	3	7	11	23	33
Arsenal	24	6	3	3	19	13	3	3	6	12	19	33
Stoke	24	7	3	2	24	16	2	1	9	11	23	31
Southampton	24	6	3	3	18	13	2	3	7	11	25	30
Notts County	24	6	2	4	18	16	2	2	8	13	28	28
Luton	24	4	5	3	23	18	2	4	6	19	31	27
Swansea	24	7	2	3	19	11	0	3	9	12	25	26
Sunderland	24	4	5	3	17	11	2	3	7	10	26	26
Norwich	24	6	2	4	17	12	1	3	8	9	28	25
Brighton	24	6	4	2	16	10	0	2	10	5	34	24
Birmingham	24	4	4	4	15	16	0	7	5	4	18	23

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wolves	24	10	0	2	31	9	5	5	2	17	13	50
Q.P.R.	24	8	2	2	24	10	8	2	4	13	12	46
Fulham	24	7	3	2	22	15	6	2	4	24	17	44
Sheff Wed	24	6	4	2	23	15	4	3	5	16	17	37
Leicester	24	6	1	5	19	10	5	2	5	22	17	36
Shrewsbury	24	5	4	3	11	9	8	2	5	13	21	36
Leeds	24	5	5	2	15	10	3	6	3	12	14	35
Oldham	24	4	7	1	23	18	3	6	3	16	15	34
Barnsley	24	5	6	1	23	13	3	4	5	12	15	34
Grimsby	24	7	3	2	23	14	3	1	8	11	28	34
Rotherham	24	5	3	4	13	13	3	5	4	15	19	32
Chelsea	24	6	5	1	22	8	2	2	8	9	21	31
Blackburn	24	6	2	2	15	3	6	2	7	12	22	31
Newcastle	24	5	5	2	17	13	2	4	6	17	23	30
Crystal P.	24	6	5	1	19	10	1	4	7	8	19	30
Cardiff	24	7	1	4	29	20	1	4	7	16	27	29
Bolton	24	7	1	4	21	15	0	6	6	16	28	28
Charlton	24	6	1	5	20	20	3	3	7	16	30	28
Middlesbrough	24	4	4	4	15	22	2	6	4	13	21	28
Cambridge	24	6	4	2	18	13	0	1	10	7	27	24
Burnley	24	4	3	5	19	17	1	0	10	13	29	19
Derby	24	3	5	4	14	17	0	5	7	10	22	10

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lincoln City	23	11	0	1	39	7	5	1	5	13	14	49
Cardiff City	24	9	1	1	21	9	5	3	5	21	24	46
Huddersfield	24	9	3	0	35	10	4	3	5	14	18	45
Bristol Rvs	25	10	2	1	38	10	3	6	18	22	44	
Oxford Utd.	23	5	6	0	21	11	7	1	4	21	14	43
Portsmouth	23	9	0	2	24	10	4	4	4	14	18	43
Newport	24	7	4	2	24	14	4	2	5	15	16	39
Wigan	25	8	0	5	25	16	3	2	7	19	25	35
Southend Utd	24	7	3	2	25	13	3	1	8	12	19	34
Plymouth A.	23	7	0	2	18	10	1	4	8	15	28	34
Brentford	25	8	2	3	32	17	1	4	7	19	28	33
Cillingham	25	6	2	4	18	14	3	4	6	12	15	33
Brad. City	24	6	5	1	25	16	2	3	7	13	23	32
Exeter	26	6	3	4	26	22	1	6	6	19	36	30
Oriskany	24	6	2	4	23	22	3	1	8	7	27	30
Sheff. Utd.	24	7	3	2	20	11	1	8	8	18	29	
Wrexham	24	6	4	2	15	8	1	4	7	7	27	29
Bournemouth	25	4	4	3	15	11	3	2	9	9	33	27
Chesterfield	24	4	2	6	18	14	2	5	10	17	25	
Doncaster	25	5	6	2	32	25	1	1	10	8	26	25
Walsall	23	5	3	4	14	15	1	4	6	15	25	25
Reading	25	6	3	4	23	19	0	4	8	15	33	25
Millwall	24	4	6	2	16	14	0	4	8	11	25	22
Preston	24	3	6	11	2	0	1	1	14	22	21	

BRIGHTON BEWARE!

LOOK out Brighton . . . Manchester City are on the FA Cup warpath.

The players are fully aware of the importance of another extended Cup campaign with the club having recently revealed a £1 million loss for last season.

That's why one could sense the great feeling of relief after our nail-biting Third Round replay victory over Sunderland at Maine Road.

It was a tie we just couldn't afford to lose. Had we failed to respond to the challenge, then the season would have been over for the supporters, and, with it, much needed cash at the turnstiles.

It was almost as if we had reached Wembley itself, such was the pressure on the players to overcome the first hurdle in the competition that means so much to the club's financial plight.

And it was a creditable performance by what was basically a patched-up team, against a Sunderland side that was on the crest of a wave after keeping clean sheets against Manchester United, Liverpool and Nottingham Forest.

We went to Sunderland determined to achieve a result, and that's why we adopted a more defensive stance.

The instructions were simple. If you prevent Sunderland from scoring, then you achieve at least another bite at the cherry.

But having returned from the North East with a goalless draw, one could sense that the fans felt the job was already done.

And our attitude and approach in the first half of the replay was first class. We fought for every ball and went in at half-time with the cushion of a two-goal lead.

I laid on the first for Asa Hartford and then he provided me with the cross to head the second.

But, in the second half, we allowed Sunderland to haul themselves back into the game and in the end we had to hang on for a crucial victory.

In the dressing room afterwards, we were kicking ourselves for letting Sunderland off the hook, although they did play well in the second half.

Now we must show the same determination and attitude to achieve a result at Brighton in the next round.

Obviously it was another disappointing draw for City after having to visit a First Division side in the Third Round.

In many respects I would have preferred a trip to Newcastle, probably because they are in the Second Division, but as City coach Glyn Pardoe pointed out, at least our attitude will be spot-on for a tie against another First Division team.

Obviously we are capable of getting something at the Goldstone, although I hope I last longer on the pitch than I did in the Maine Road clash with them last month.

I was hurt after only two minutes in a clash with Steve Foster, and I limped out of the 1-1 draw eight minutes later!

Although the FA Cup is the only channel open to us to achieve some glory this season, the players also realise the importance of attempting to win a place in Europe next



THE DAVID CROSS COLUMN

season.

Despite a small return from our holiday programme — four points from a possible 12 — we are still hanging around the half-way mark.

But, to push ourselves back into the reckoning for a place in the UEFA Cup, we must achieve consistency away from home.

We haven't won on foreign soil since our 2-1 win at Tottenham back on September 11.

There's simply no point in winning your home matches and then losing the following week.

If we could enjoy a lengthy Cup run — naturally we are capable of winning it just as much as the other teams left in the competition — and achieve a place in the top six, then a difficult season would be transformed into a highly satisfactory one.

Manager John Bond has not had the finances to purchase players he has wanted to strengthen the squad, and subsequently he has had to persevere with players who would have been dropped in normal circumstances.

I'm pretty certain that I would have been dropped before Christmas when I had a lean goalscoring run had there been experienced cover in the reserves.

The financial problem at the club was brought home to me when I discovered that around three-quarters of City's average crowd are season ticket holders whose money was collected last summer.

So only around a quarter of our home gate is paying at the turnstiles.

But, in Cup ties, everyone pays and that further emphasises the need for a good run.

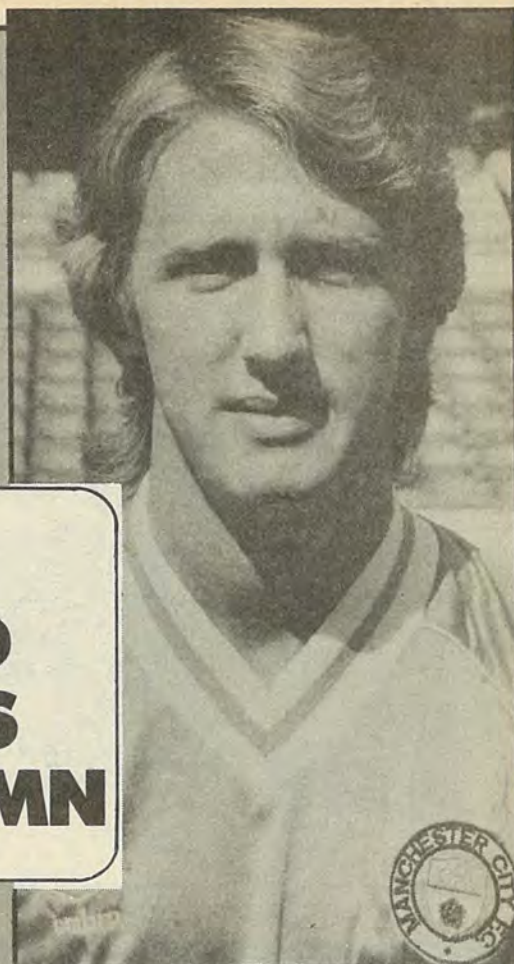
Injury problems have not assisted City's task this season. From my own point of view, it's been my worst season for injuries.

In the Sunderland replay we only had one recognised midfield player in Asa Hartford and skipper Paul Power played at left-back.

The loss of Graham Baker for the past two months with a mystery ankle injury has been a big blow.

He has fitted in well following his move from Southampton and he reminds me of former West Brom and Manchester United ace Johnny Giles in the way he patters around behind the strikers waiting to pick up the pieces.

His absence has given another chance to young Steve Kinsey, who earlier this season



Steve Kinsey — his pace up front has been an asset.

spent loan periods with Chester and Chesterfield.

His pace up front has certainly been an asset for me. He latches on to flicked headers so well.

I know he enjoyed his spells with the lower division clubs because he played as a central striker.

He prefers to play down the middle whereas when he got his League chance with City about a year ago, he was used as a right winger.

But he seems to be taking his second chance with both hands.

See you in a fortnight.

David Cross

● David Cross was talking to Melvyn Beck.

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AVID Peterborough United fan Mick Robinson values his programme collection so much that he's had it included in his will!

He's heard so many chilling tales of unsuspecting widows burning their husband's valuable programmes that he wanted to make certain his 'labour of love' was kept in the family.

And no wonder . . . his 12,000 programmes have been insured for £4,500 which makes it — his second most valuable asset after his house!

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There's all the FA Cup Finals and Semi-Finals since the last war; all England's home internationals since 1948, plus a complete set of all Under-23 internationals played in this country.

But the centre-piece of his collection is a complete set of Peterborough's League programmes, home and away, since they were elected to the football League in 1960-61.

His Peterborough collection totals more than 2,500 which also includes every FA Cup and League Cup tie played since 1952, plus all the programmes from the last eight years in the Midland League and those from reserve and youth team fixtures at London Road.

Says water board worker Mick: "My dad supported Peterborough in their non-League days and there were always programmes lying around the house."

"I started collecting programmes on a serious basis in the late sixties and early seventies."

"It simply started out as a love of football and collecting programmes was a natural progression."

His collection obviously includes Peterborough's first-ever League match against Wrexham in August 1960 which is worth around £6 today.

But it was Peterborough's Fourth Division visit to Swansea in 1974 — the year they won the Fourth Division Championship for a second time — that

Melvyn Beck meets the football fanatic with a programme collection that's really 'posh'.

proved the biggest problem for Mick.

It took him five years to hunt down that particular programme to enable him to complete his set.

"The game was postponed on the Friday night when the floodlights failed just before the kick off," he explains.

"All the programmes had been sold for that night, and the match was played the next morning to avoid a clash with a rugby international in Wales in the afternoon."

"Consequently, people got free admission and there were no programmes on offer."

"In the end I managed to get a copy from a retired Swansea sports journalist some five years later."

One of his favourite programmes is a 1947 Ollerton Colliery v Peterborough match in the Midland League — a four-page publication that had a quarter of the front page missing . . .

His earliest Peterborough programme is a 1936 match at Norwich Reserves, two years after the club was formed.

But he also has a 1909 Liverpool programme in his possession which is worth more than £25.

And another interesting one is a 1950 League match between two clubs who are no longer in the League, New Brighton and Barrow.

Two programmes of which he is fondest surround anniversaries.

"The Peterborough v Halifax match in September 1974 was the first game I took along my future wife, and the Mansfield v Peterborough game in 1977 was played on the day I was married."

"I didn't see the game, of course, but obviously I picked a Saturday when Peterborough were away!"

Apart from his programme collection, Mick is also a keen follower of statistics.



Iain McCULLOCH



'Match' photographer Philip Bagnall brings you a colourful glimpse inside the other world of Notts County's Scottish international striker.



Away from the hustle and bustle of professional football 28-year-old Iain likes nothing better than relaxing at home with his wife Ann and daughter Fiona (2). Note the good taste in reading matter!

match
WEEKLY

**PHIL
PARKES
WEST HAM**

SLAV DRIVER!

ARSENAL'S new signing Vladimir Petrovic could emerge as this country's top import.

I would certainly bracket the Yugoslavian World Cup player in the same classy mould as Tottenham's Argentinian stars Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricky Villa and the two talented Dutchmen, Frans Thijssen and Arnold Muhren.

He's a class player with a sharp brain and he could be a major influence on the Arsenal side in our bid for Cup glory this season.

His arrival earlier this month after a long and complicated transfer saga has given the Arsenal squad a big lift.

I'm sure we would be in a more challenging position in the First Division had he been here at the start of the season.

With all due respect to my fellow midfield players, he has provided us with important balance and subtlety on the right hand side of the field.

It certainly didn't take long for him to make his mark at Highbury on his debut against Swansea on New Year's Day.

He laid on a brilliant goal for Tony Woodcock after just four minutes to achieve an instant rapport with the Arsenal fans.

He's having a few language problems at the moment and the team meetings are quite amusing.

He simply stares into space as Terry Neill and Don Howe deliver their instructions because he hasn't a clue what they are talking about.

But he does his talking on the field! Vladimir has found it difficult to comprehend the continual use of the long ball in this country.

Back home in Yugoslavia, he was used to the short passing system where he was supplied with the ball at every conceivable opportunity.

But once he settles down to life in the First Division, I'm sure he will emerge as one of the most exciting players.

I know he's eagerly looking forward to his first taste of FA Cup football which will come

PETROVIC CAN SPUR ARSENAL TO CUP GLORY

Neil Whatmore and we had to thank Paul David for a goal-line clearance to prevent a replay.

Although we should have won with plenty to spare, we could count ourselves fortunate in the end to win through at the first attempt.

Now we face another Second Division team at home in Leeds, and that's a special tie for me.

Coming from Doncaster, Leeds were my boyhood team and current player-manager Eddie Gray was one of my schoolboy heroes.

They are one of the top sides in the Second Division even though they are going through

a transitional period, and we shall certainly have to improve on our Bolton showing to get through.

On our day, we are capable of defeating any team in the country — but it's a matter of getting it together.

We've been blessed with another home tie, and if you don't take advantage of that, then you don't deserve to get to Wembley.

We have had some great results against Leeds in the past few years. I can remember us putting seven past them in a League Cup tie and scoring five in a League match at Elland Road.

But anything can happen in cup football, and we shall have to be on our mettle to reach the last 16.

Our performances have improved a little since Christmas. We collected seven points from a possible 12, including a very sweet 2-0 home win over North London rivals Tottenham.

Tottenham have overshadowed Arsenal in the past couple of seasons and one could sense that the lads were determined to put the record straight.

After the game, Glenn Hoddle admitted that Arsenal deserved their victory, having showed far more determination on the day.

We picked up a battling point at improving Southampton after being 2-1 down, but then we ran headlong into the Liverpool machine at Anfield.

We were a bit disappointed with the outcome. We were more than holding our own when Ian Rush opened the scoring with a goal we felt was offside.

Then, as we were attempting to get back into the game after half-time, Peter Nicholas made a hash of a back pass and Liverpool were on the way to a 3-1 win.

There is no doubt that Liverpool are playing football worthy of winning the Championship, but I wouldn't say the race is over.

There is still a lot of football to be played and Manchester United, with their strength in depth, could emerge from the pack as their closest rivals.



THE GRAHAM

in our Fourth Round home tie with Leeds on Saturday week.

He was ineligible for the Third Round victory over Bolton which, in the end, proved something of a struggle.

But when you get to Wembley and lift that Cup, you never remember the scares you had on the way.

There is a feeling among the lads at Highbury that this could be our year for a slice of Cup glory, and we are determined to make amends for our mediocre performances in the League.

But to achieve another Wembley dream, we'll have to play much better than we did against Bolton.

Paul Davis grabbed an early goal and we should have consolidated on that, but we frittered away several chances and, in the last twenty minutes Bolton had us rocking.

I managed to grab a second goal six minutes from the end when the Bolton defenders backed off, and I thought that was that.

But Bolton battled back with a goal from

RIX COLUMN

Before our Cup-tie with Leeds, we have a score to settle at Notts County where we lost 2-1 last season after leading 1-0 with only a few minutes to go.

They have added big Justin Fashanu to their side since then and our two central defenders will know they have been in a game with him around.

He's a big, brave lad and I have felt rather sorry for him this season.

He had to carry a £1 million price tag and I think the pressure proved too much in the end.

But he seems to have put that behind him at Meadow Lane, and he'll be one to watch on Saturday.

See you in a fortnight.

Graham Rix

● Graham Rix was talking to Melvyn Beck.



Tony Cottee leaves Spurs goalkeeper Ray Clemence flat on his back and the ball bulging the back of the net on his debut for West Ham.

AS he stood on the West Ham terraces, young Tony Cottee dreamed of following in the footsteps of his boyhood idol 'Pop' Robson.

He longed to be the darling of the Upton Park fans as the local boy transformed into a First Division hero in the very best of comic strip traditions.

As the evergreen Robson popped in goal after goal to send the faithful into raptures, young Tony, born just a few miles away from the Hammers' ground, tried to picture himself receiving the same adulation.

Now, barely three years on, West Ham fans have probably seen the re-birth of Pop Robson in the shape of 17-year-old Tony.

There was certainly more than a hint of Pop's sharpness and awareness around the penalty area as the apprentice emerged from his dream with two goals in his first two First Division appearances.

It's little wonder that the sudden rise from obscurity to national limelight left the youngster bemused and wondering whether he was still dreaming on the terraces.

There he was, celebrating a debut goal in the pulsating derby affair with Tottenham and receiving the cheers of the fans with whom, a few seasons before, he stood shoulder to shoulder on the terraces.

Young Tony, with more

KID COTTEE GOES POP...

'MATCH' spotlights West Ham's latest scoring sensation Tony Cottee, a teenager who idolised former Upton Park goal ace 'Pop' Robson.

than 80 goals to his credit in all grades of football since he joined West Ham as an apprentice 22 months ago, had arrived with a bang that predecessor Pop might well have heard across the capital at Chelsea.

Yet Tony didn't realise he was in the side to face Spurs until an hour before the kick-off.

As he explains: "I knew that Paul Goddard was injured but, with Nicky Morgan also in the squad, I thought that the substitute's spot would be the furthest I would get.

"I couldn't believe it when Mr Lyall told me I was playing. I was nervous at first, but once I got loosened up in the gym before the start, I was all right.

"It was like a dream come

true to score on my debut. A Geoff Pike free kick was headed against the bar by Joe Gallagher and I was first to react to the rebound.

"I can't describe my feelings as I danced around the pitch in delight.

"The lads didn't say a lot afterwards but the manager was delighted with the overall team performance in a 3-0 win.

"And I managed to score again in my next appearance but this time we were on the end of a 3-2 home defeat by Luton.

"Then, to play my first FA Cup game away to Manchester United. Well, it's an almost unbelievable start to my career."

Tony, who also trained with Arsenal and Crystal Palace

before signing schoolboy forms with West Ham, appreciates that he was simply keeping Paul Goddard's shirt warm.

But he also realises that his sudden claim to fame has boosted his chances of being offered professional terms this summer.

"That's my first priority, to be signed as a professional, and then I can concentrate on trying to win a regular place in the side," he says.

"I didn't expect to get a League chance so early in my career with West Ham. There aren't many apprentices who get a chance in the First Division.

"I've always scored goals at West Ham through all levels of soccer, reserves, youths and juniors, so it was nice to score a couple in the First Division.

"But I've got to keep my feet firmly on the ground."

TERRACE TALK

Edited by
Michael Weavers



WELCOME to the best read letters page in football . . . with unique prizes for every reader who gets his or her letter published!

Yes, throughout the season we'll be giving away a super metal lapel badge (pictured) to every person whose comments are published in 'Match' and each badge will carry that special 'Terrace Talk' logo.

It's a prize that money can't buy and one could be yours!

Plus we will be giving a prize of £10 for what we consider to be the star letter of the week and, of course, the sender will also receive a 'Terrace Talk' badge.

So get those letters coming in NOW and you could be the envy of your friends.

Write to: **Michael Weavers**, 'Terrace Talk' Editor, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

I HAVE great respect for Scotland manager Jock Stein, but I was furious when he left Kenny Dalglish out of the squad to face East Germany.

Jock, however, admitted his mistake and recalled Kenny for the match with Belgium and the Liverpool ace scored two cracking goals in the Scots' 3-2 defeat.

It's time now that Bobby Robson admits he made a similar mistake when he axed Kevin Keegan from his England squad and recalled the Newcastle sharp-shooter.

Players like Dalglish and Keegan are blessed with individual skills and there should always be a place for them in the international arena. *Dean and Wayne (Liverpool fans), Ysterplant, Cape Province, South Africa.*

WHAT a revelation Liverpool sharp-shooter Ian Rush has turned out to be!

Three years ago, he was a comparatively unknown player with Fourth Division Chester and now he has matured into surely the finest centre-forward in British football.

Full credit to Ian, who must be well on his way to becoming the first player to score 30 First Division goals in a season, since Bob Latchford managed the feat five years ago with city rivals, Everton.

With Ian in his present form, it is difficult to envisage the League title — or any other

trophy for that matter — slipping from Liverpool's grasp.

Justin Sharon (13), Edinburgh, Scotland.

I DISAGREE with Match Weekly's campaign to get League fixtures called off on the Saturday before an international.

England boss Bobby Robson complained about the number of players reporting injured just before an important international fixture and said that we must put the country before club football.

He's wrong. The League is far more important. Two years ago, England relied heavily on Nottingham Forest players. Some were injured and missed vitally important games for the club.

Right now at Forest, Brian Clough is claiming £10,000 compensation for the injury to right back Viv Anderson, sustained during training with the international side.

Anderson's loss has been a big blow to the club and Clough is quite right to try and secure adequate compensation.

Paul Wheaton, Biddenden, Kent.

● **WHAT'S more important . . . producing an England side that can win the European Championship and challenge strongly for the next World Cup, or securing the interests of individual clubs? You can't have it both ways.**

THE atmosphere at Wembley for England's internationals is



pathetic. It's time England's international fixtures were moved elsewhere.

The fans are too far removed from the action at Wembley. The only time the stadium comes alight is for a cup final.

And England's record at Wembley is far from acceptable. In nine home matches up to the clash with Luxembourg, England's record was: WON 3, DREW 2, LOST 4, and that included defeats by Spain, Brazil, Scotland and West Germany.

If England were to move their matches to League grounds, they would be assured of more passionate support. I doubt if England would have such a poor record playing in front of a packed Old Trafford.

And moving England's games about the country would also give more fans the opportunity to see their national side in live action.

Alan Welsh (14), Warrington, Cheshire.

SO 'Match' reader Mike Laney thinks Norman Whiteside is not worthy of his place in the Manchester United team.

I wonder how many times he has seen Norman play. Watching a player once or twice on TV highlights is no way to judge his ability.

Only by watching Norman live can you see the amount of work he gets through in each game. And his partner up front, Frank Stapleton, reckons Norman is as good a finisher as Malcolm Macdonald.

I've seen all United's home games this season and I agree with him.

Sue Jones, Wythenshawe, Manchester.

ENGLAND boss Bobby Robson must be crazy to say in a national newspaper that Paul Mariner will almost certainly replace Luther Blissett against Greece in March.

How on earth can he drop a player who scored a hat-trick on his debut?

In my book, Mariner is over-rated. I doubt if he would have notched three times against Luxembourg.

My message to Robson is to keep faith with the rapidly maturing skills of Blissett.

Darren Gregory, Newcastle, Staffs.

LUTHER Blissett, Watford's black striker, had a fairy-tale debut for England, scoring a hat-trick in the 3-0 drubbing of Luxembourg.

But will Blissett be picked when England have a choice of fully-fit strikers? Will he be given preference over players like Paul Mariner and Trevor Francis?

Personally, I hope so. It would be great to see how Blissett's strong-running style fares against more serious opposition.

Victor Butchers, Stone, Kent.

I MUST write to applaud Kevin Keegan. My friend's dad spotted the Newcastle star in a local supermarket doing some Christmas shopping and asked Kevin if he could have his autograph for his son.

Kevin kindly obliged, asked

**£10
WINNER**

LAY OFF WATFORD!

MY MESSAGE to all the critics is: "Lay off Watford!"

I'm fed up with the continual condemnation of their style of play. The truth is that the 'Hornets' play with great flair.

It's ludicrous to suggest that they could lower the standard of the British game with their direct approach. The 'cat and mouse' policy of some clubs get them nowhere.

Only the Watfords of this world will make the missing fans return. And I'll be delighted when Graham Taylor's men lift the Championship next May.

Andrew Ferguson, Burton upon Trent, Staffs.

● NOW let's not get carried away . . .

my friend's dad for his telephone number and then telephoned my pal that night to wish him the best for Christmas and the remainder of the season.

This shows that Kevin genuinely cares for supporters. *Martin Anderson, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.*



Mike Fillery — one of the best midfielders in the country, says Justin Garrett.

MICKY Fillery is one of the best midfield players in the country and really deserves better than playing for a mediocre Second Division team like Chelsea.

Fillery's skills are wasted with a team struggling in the bottom half of Division Two. He must take the earliest opportunity to get away from Stamford Bridge and join a successful side. *Justin Garrett (14), Hackney, London.*

HERE'S my teams of 'Alans'. It would be impossible to beat them:

Alan Stevenson (Burnley), Alan Kennedy (Liverpool), Alan Irvine (Everton), Alan Curbishley (Birmingham), Allan Evans (Aston Villa), Alan Curtis (Swansea), Alan Devonshire (West Ham), Alan Brazil (Ipswich), Allan Simonsen (Charlton), Alan Young (Sheffield United), Alan Sunderland (Arsenal). *Simon Knott, Stockport, Cheshire.*

WHY is it that boring teams can win 1-0 and get three points,

while an attacking team loses 4-3 and gets nothing?

The points system is all wrong and encourages drab football. Points should be given for goals scored.

By the way, the last time I wrote to you, you spelt my name wrong.

Brian Norman, Sandyford, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

● TRY and improve your handwriting then.

I AM disgusted at the way First Division clubs are handing the League Championship to Liverpool on a plate.

To hear many managers talk, they think the race is all over and that Liverpool will never lose another match.

It's about time these clubs

adopted a more positive attitude. They should buck their ideas up and have a go at beating Bob Paisley's men.

Liverpool aren't superhuman. *H. Gaudon (15), Chichester, Sussex.*

SCOTLAND boss Jock Stein should take a leaf out of his English counterpart's book and give youngsters their international chance. Bobby Robson has shown that gambling on youth can pay rich dividends.

If Celtic ace Charlie Nicholas was English, I'm sure he would have had his international chance by now. Jock must pick Charlie for Scotland's next game. *Eustace Oiekwe, Hillhead, Glasgow.*

GOLDEN GOOF

"SUNDERLAND were a bit premature — rejecting John Wile at the age of 10," says Nigel Sheldrake of Heybridge Basin, Essex, who spotted this Golden Goof.

And that's an iron twist for Geordie-bo Wile, 35, who was born just 10 miles from Roker Park and then kicked out by Sunderland at 10 on a free transfer.

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U.S. SET TO HOST FINALS

SIGNS indicate that the United States are the new favourites to stage the next World Cup Finals.

And if they win the FIFA vote next May, it could be listed as another back door success for Dr Henry Kissinger.

The former US Secretary of State has friends on the FIFA executive committee and began his lobbying during the World Cup in Spain. Now Kissinger says: "I have it on good authority that America will have a good chance when FIFA make their decision. My FIFA friends have also told me that games on astroturf would present no problems."

In support of Kissinger's diplomatic talk-ins, just take a look at some of the stadiums in the USA where games could be played, and the number of people they can cater for in comfort:

Giants Stadium, New York (78,000); Robert Kennedy Stadium, Washington (55,000); Tampa Bay Stadium, Florida (71,600); John F. Kennedy Stadium, Philadelphia (100,000); Soldiers Field, Chicago (60,000); Coliseum, Los Angeles (90,000); and Rose Bowl, Los Angeles (102,000).

INTERNATIONAL HOT LINE



RUNAWAY HORST

BIG German striker Horst Hrubesch is set to lose his place in Hamburg's first team — and his captain's armband — at the end of the season.

And Hrubesch, two-goal hero of West Germany's European Championship victory over Belgium in 1980, is more than a little upset with the club for not offering him a new contract.

Says the man nicknamed 'The Monster': "One of the reasons I told Jupp Derwall earlier this season to forget me for the West German national side was that I wanted to spend more time with my family and concentrate on playing for Hamburg."

"The club told me they would thank me by extending my contract for a further two years. I've been with Hamburg since 1978. Now this!"

Hamburg manager Gunter Netzer, never one to get involved in off-the-field controversy, says: "As far as we are concerned, Dieter Schatzschneider will be our number one striker next season so Hrubesch will be on the transfer list."

Meanwhile, over at Bayern Munich, another well known German international, Paul Breitner, is planning a new life for himself.

HAMBURG TO PART WITH HRUBESCH

The midfield general is seriously considering quitting the game when the season finishes.

Says Paul: "The game is getting too aggressive. I've been laid off with injuries so often I can count on one hand the number of times I have been fully fit on the field."

"I reckon next summer might be the right time to stop."

It may be a case of believe it when it happens, however, because not so long ago Rainer Bonhof said he was going to retire at the end of the season — only to join Hertha BSC on a new two-year contract three weeks later!

Right: Horst Hrubesch — on his way from Hamburg under a cloud.



We are lucky to get a man of his experience."

Heddergott has been director of coaching for the West German FA; West Germany's national youth coach; FIFA coaching instructor and chief coach to Cologne.

■ NORTH Korea may be banned from world football by FIFA following a riot by players and fans during a match against Kuwait in New Delhi.

The Asian Football Confederation are recommending a two-year ban but the final decision will rest with FIFA.

■ FLOYD Davis can consider himself lucky he lives in sunny Trinidad.

He'll need all the sun he can get to brighten his life because he certainly won't live to see the end of his "suspension" from soccer.

FIFA have banned him for 99 years for attacking and injuring a referee.

A BOOM IN ITALY

ITALY'S victory in the 1982 World Cup has led to an incredible crowd boom at Italian League grounds.

Just look at these figures for League and European cup matches since the Spanish Finals:

AS Roma v FC Cologne 66,720; Juventus v Standard Liege 70,370; Inter v Real Madrid 78,744; Napoli v Tbilisi 73,250; Napoli v Juventus 82,508; Roma v Ipswich Town 60,334; Fiorentina v Juventus 54,204; Inter v Moenchengladbach 78,331; Milan v Juventus 68,483; Roma v Juventus 71,191.

■ BRAZIL have discovered a new Tostao!

This one, of the same name, has no link with the famous striker from the glory days of Pele, Jairzinho and Rivelino... but he does know there the goal is.

He knocked in 16 in his first nine games for Cruzeiro.

But while you might think that makes him a favourite for the title of the country's leading scorer, he has to compete with Zico, who bagged 20 goals in his first ten games!

■ INTERNATIONAL soccer Stateside has been

given a terrific boost with the appointment of one of the top men in the business.

Karl-Heinz Heddergott, the 55-year-old West German football brain, is the United States Soccer Federation's new director of coaching.

And says USA Federation president Gene Edwards: "We believe we can advance our international development by several years."

A BLUNDER in an 'Auld Firm' game can cost a player his career at a club so I was happy with my baptism of fire at Parkhead back in 1971.

Players, managers and officials try to play the occasion down but there's no doubt in my mind that the meeting of Rangers and Celtic is the greatest club match in the world.

I got my first chance to play in such a game when I was just 20-years-old following an injury to full-back Jim Craig and it was my job to mark Willie Johnston, who went on to star for West Brom and Scotland.

Parkhead was bursting at the seams with 75,000 fanatical fans as I made my wobbly-legged appearance on the pitch. It was one of the most emotional moments of my career.

Victory in the game was even more important than usual because the old rivals had already beaten us in a Glasgow Cup match earlier in the season so we were delighted to come through 2-0 victors following goals from John Hughes and Bobby Murdoch.

Funnily enough, the most pleasing aspects of that day for me came after the game as I sat in the dressing room. It was a simple statement from my manager Jock Stein.

He said: "Well that's your first one over Danny and you did well. There'll be more to come for you." That really made my day — it was better than winning a medal.

My performance in that game stood me in good stead for the rest of the season and I played eight matches on the trot and got my first taste of European Cup football.

The manager chose me for a First Round tie against little known Finnish team Kokkola and we were red-hot favourites to win after reaching the Final of the competition the year before when Celtic lost 2-1 to Feyenoord of Holland.

We hammered the Finns for nine goals and we played like potential winners of the tournament. It was great to be part of a display like that.

Ironically, after playing in the return leg — which we won 5-0 to notch up a 14-0 aggregate victory — I returned home to find myself dropped for the next match.

To be honest, I wasn't really upset. I'd tasted first team football and had experience in Europe. I was happy to spend the rest of the season in the reserves.

A CRACK OF HEADS

...AND MY CAREER WAS IN THE BALANCE

It was Jock's way of bleeding young players and I accepted it.

Fourteen successive first team matches in the 1970-71 season gave me a real hope of a breakthrough the following year — but it wasn't to be.

In fact 1972 started well for me when I married my childhood sweetheart Laraine in January. But after that, it proved to be a bit of a disaster.

The opening half of the season saw my rival Jim Craig in fantastic form and I had to be content with life in the reserves while my old mates Lou Macari, Kenny Dalglish and Davie Hay were establishing themselves as regulars.

I got another chance of European action in March when Celtic were drawn against Ujpest Dozsa of Hungary — one of the favourites to win the trophy — in the Quarter Finals.

The draw proved to be a bonus for the travelling Celtic fans because they found themselves booked in the same hotel as film stars Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor and they threw a party for the supporters in their penthouse suite.

Burton — normally an avid rugby fan — changed sports and he and Liz donned Celtic scarves to become supporters.

Celtic pulled off a shock victory after getting off to a great start. They scored an own goal but the offending player then equalised. Little Lou Macari made it a dramatic victory with one of the cheekiest winners I've ever seen.

He dashed through a packed defence and lobbed the ball over the Hungarian 'keeper to give us a 2-1 victory. After winning away, we seemed to be on an easy course for other appearance in a European Cup Semi-Final.

Before finally winning the return at Parkhead 3-2, we were given a few scares by the Hungarians. They scored an early goal and then piled back in defence.

I left Parkhead full of joys that night. I was back in the first team and looked forward to the glittering array of prizes on offer to me... League Championships, Scottish Cup and perhaps even the European Cup.

A couple of days later, I found myself lying in Falkirk Royal Infirmary with a fractured skull and my football career in the balance.

We were playing Falkirk — always a difficult team to beat — and I went up for a ball with Dougie Somner, now at St Mirren, and there was a crack of heads.

I went down in a crumpled heap but soon recovered when our trainer Neilly Mochran stuffed smelling salts up my nose. Believe me, you had to be dead not to react to his medication.

After a wipe of the sponge, I was ready to play again and so was Dougie. But as I moved to the dressing room at half-time, I felt a bit weird. It was as if I wasn't really there.

As I sat down during the break, the manager's lecture seemed like a million miles away. I remember saying to substitute Lou Macari that I felt a bit funny.

The wee man, who was suffering from an ankle injury, was full of sympathy. He said: "You're okay. Go on. I don't fancy playing today."

Those were the last words I heard until I woke up two hours later surrounded by doctors and nurses. While I got my bearings, they told the whole story. As I made my way out of the Brockville dressing room I had simply collapsed.

Naturally the first thing I asked when I came to was the result of the game. I was told we'd won 1-0. That was the good news. The bad news was that X-rays revealed I'd fractured my skull.

That kind of injury is about the worst sort a footballer can get because heading the ball is a necessary trick of the trade. Even though there was speculation that I might have to quit, I refused to consider the possibility.

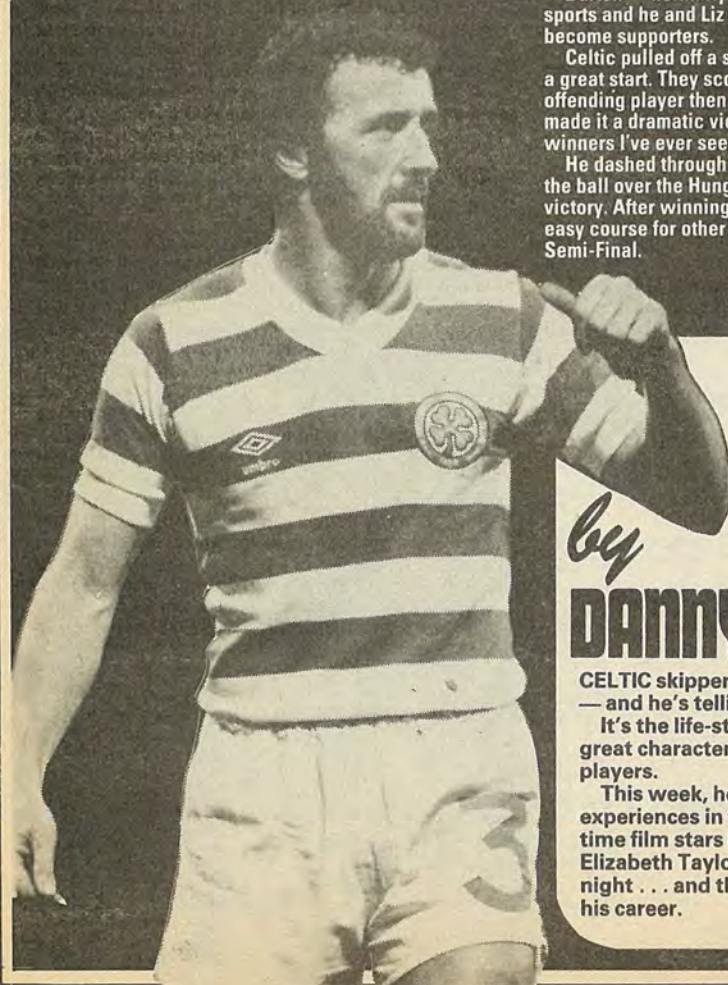
It was only as time dragged on and the newspapers kept continually checking on my condition that I began to fear for any future. Perhaps they were right and I'd have to quit.

I also had plenty of time to think about games I was bound to miss... the Scottish Cup Final, European Cup Final and the final run-in for the League Championship.

I had to go through the misery of watching Celtic go out of Europe and sit enviously as my mates Kenny, Lou and Davie picked up both League and Cup winners' medals.

When the specialist gave me the all-clear I felt a shudder of relief go through my whole body. I was delighted and determined to make the next season a big one for me. It was... but more of 1972-73 next week.

Danny McGrain



MY STORY

by **DANNY McGRAIN**

CELTIC skipper Danny McGrain is telling all — and he's telling it to 'Match'.

It's the life-story of one of the game's great characters and most respected players.

This week, he tells of his early experiences in the Celtic first team... the time film stars Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor turned Celtic fans for a night... and the injury which threatened his career.

SWANSEA ACE IS DEFIANT ...

STRIKER Alan Curtis believes struggling Swansea are suffering from a soccer hangover.

The Welsh club are currently engaged in the annual dogfight to avoid relegation — almost a year to the day since they topped Division One for the first time in their history.

And Alan is convinced that the Swans' poor form this season is a backlash from the incredible run of success the club has enjoyed over the last four years.

"We have probably been too successful for our own good," he says. "Everything happened so quickly and we seem to be paying the penalty."

"It's difficult to imagine that four years ago we were in the Fourth Division — I suppose it was inevitable the run would end."

Manager John Toshack's Welsh warriors took the First Division by storm last season and were never out of the top third of the table.

But even when they were top of the League and threatening to take the title, Alan was afraid the bubble would burst and Swansea would be tagged 'one-season wonders'.

And that fear has turned into harsh reality this season with Swansea struggling at the foot of the table.

Says Alan: "It was great while it lasted but I suppose things had to settle down after the success of the last few years."

"This season has been a levelling off period for us and a very disappointing one, but it is up to us to get out of trouble."

Alan admits that the side has not played well this season, but blames that on the batch of injuries which have hit the club's top players.

He says: "We have been decimated by injuries, not just for the odd game, but most of the season."

"The manager has not been able to field the same team twice and virtually every player in the club has been out through injury at one time or another."

Among the list of casualties this season have been Colin Irwin, Ante Rajkovic, Jeremy Charles and Ray Kennedy, who was suspended for two weeks by Toshack and stripped of the captaincy earlier this month.

And Alan himself has had to make regular visits to the treatment room with a nagging knee injury.

"I injured my knee on the second Saturday of the season and I've had trouble with it ever since," he says. "I haven't been able to train very much and have had to pull out of some games."

The injury jinx began two weeks before the start of the season when Swansea played in the preliminary round of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

It was not ideal preparation for the League programme as Alan explains: "We picked up a

WE'RE TOO GOOD TO GO DOWN

few injuries and we never really recovered from that.

"The boss has a constant problem naming his strongest team. Sometimes players have failed a fitness test on the Saturday and he hasn't been able to pick the side until 2pm."

"It's difficult for us to get our game together when the side has to be changed at the last minute but these things happen in football and we have just got to accept it and keep fighting."

Swansea were hovering above the relegation zone before Christmas but were hoping the games over the holiday period would help steer them clear of danger.

But with just one point from three games they were plunged even deeper into trouble.

"We had a disastrous Christmas," says Alan. "In fact we haven't played well all season and some of our players have not lived up to last year's form."

"But the atmosphere and spirit at the club is good and I am confident that — if we can keep clear of injuries — we will avoid the drop into the Second Division."

"All we need to do is to get a couple of wins under our belt and things will work out ... we're too good to go down."



Above: Alan Curtis — his fears have been realised.

Below: Swansea striker Bob Latchford (in action against Forest's Viv Anderson) — despite his team struggling he has continued to produce the goals with 16 to his credit at the turn of the year.



Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Swansea	19	7	2	1	18	7	3	1	5	12	21	33
Man. Utd.	18	6	2	1	14	4	3	3	3	13	11	32
Ipswich	15	6	1	1	15	8	4	1	4	10	16	30
Southampton	17	4	0	2	22	11	2	3	1	12	6	29
Tottenham	17	4	0	5	14	13	5	2	3	12	15	29
Nott'm For.	18	5	2	2	11	8	3	3	4	7	12	28
Man. City	18	5	3	2	17	8	3	4	2	7	6	27
Brighton	18	3	5	1	17	12	3	4	1	10	10	27
Arsenal	16	4	2	1	5	2	4	1	4	10	9	26
West Ham	16	4	3	1	19	13	2	5	1	14	9	25
Everton	18	6	1	2	16	8	1	3	5	8	15	25
Liverpool	16	3	3	2	12	7	3	3	2	11	9	24
Coventry	18	5	2	2	19	9	1	2	6	8	10	22
West Brom	17	3	4	2	12	7	2	2	4	9	12	21
Stoke	18	4	0	5	14	12	2	2	5	9	16	20
Leeds	18	4	5	0	13	6	1	0	8	4	13	19
Aston Villa	18	2	3	3	9	10	2	4	4	13	13	19
Wolves	17	4	2	3	7	7	1	2	5	4	16	19
Birmingham	16	4	3	1	19	13	0	3	5	4	10	18
Notts Co.	17	3	4	1	13	12	1	1	7	11	19	17
Sunderland	19	1	2	6	6	17	2	3	5	10	16	14
Middlesbro	18	2	3	4	10	15	0	3	8	6	15	12

Left: Top of the League — that was Swansea at the beginning of 1982. (Note the position of subsequent Champions Liverpool).

Right: Staring relegation in the face — that's Swansea at the turn of 1983.

DIVISION ONE

HOME														AWAY													
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts							
Liverpool	23	10	2	0	40	12	5	3	3	18	9	50															
Watford	23	9	2	1	28	7	3	2	6	14	18	40															
Man Utd	23	8	4	0	22	5	3	3	5	9	13	40															
Nottm F	23	8	2	1	22	8	4	2	6	17	23	40															
W Ham	22	8	1	2	26	11	4	0	7	14	21	37															
Coventry	23	9	2	1	21	7	2	2	7	11	22	37															
Aston V	23	9	1	2	27	11	2	1	8	7	20	35															
W.B.A.	23	7	3	1	25	11	2	3	7	11	23	33															
Tottenham	23	8	2	2	30	12	2	3	1	8	4	21	33														
Man City	23	7	3	1	16	9	2	2	8	13	27	32															
Ipswich	23	5	1	5	19	15	3	6	3	18	14	31															
Stoke	23	7	3	2	24	12	2	2	8	11	23	31															
Everton	23	6	4	3	18	13	3	3	6	12	19	30															
Arsenal	23	5	3	3	18	13	2	2	8	14	20	30															
Sheff Wed	23	6	2	3	17	12	2	3	7	11	25	29															
Notts Co	23	6	2	4	18	15	2	2	7	13	26	28															
Norwich	23	6	2	4	17	12	1	3	7	13	26	28															
Brighton	23	6	4	2	16	10	0	2	9	5	32	24															
Swansea	23	6	2	3	17	11	0	3	9	12	25	23															
Luton	22	4	4	3	22	17	1	4	6	16	29	23															
Sunderland	23	4	3	5	13	11	2	3	7	10	26	23															
Birmngm	23	4	4	3	14	14	0	7	5	4	18	23															

A GEM!



Mark Walters celebrates his match-winner against Northampton in the Third Round of the FA Cup — a goal described as a flash of pure brilliance.

... FROM VILLA'S 'BLACK PEARL'

THE mere fact that Aston Villa were winning made a pleasant change for Mark Walters.

Normally his appearance as substitute signalled an attempt to avoid defeat.

But when he made his European Cup debut against Dinamo Bucharest, Villa were three-up and coasting to victory.

And, coming on for hat-trick hero Gary Shaw, he celebrated by adding a fourth — his first senior goal for the club.

"It was a great feeling. With the crowd in such a good mood, it was quite easy to get into the game.

"And it made a pleasant change. Normally when I come on we're losing!"

Still, it was blond bombshell Shaw who grabbed the headlines the next day.

But when Aston Villa opened their FA Cup account earlier this month, it was Mark's turn to take the accolades.

This time, standing in for the injured Gary Shaw, he scored the Third Round match-winner ... and what a gem it was.

Defeated Northampton manager Clive Walker described it as "a flash of pure brilliance."

Eighteen-year-old Mark himself refuses to get carried away ...

"Peter Withe called for the ball and they all went to him and left me free. The rest was simple," he says modestly.

"I've had a lot of rave reports but I'm a level-headed sort of person and I take them all with a pinch of salt.

"Take Gary Shaw. One week the media are raving about him and the next week they're slating him, so I don't take too much notice."

Birmingham-born Mark, who lives just a stone's throw away from Villa Park, played in the two opening League games of the season — replacing Gary Shaw and then Peter Withe.

But for the most part he's had to be content with

fleeting appearances and a place on the bench.

After Villa's World Club Championship game against Penarol, however, Mark made a dramatic return to the team ... at the expense of England winger Tony Morley!

He kept his place for the following three League games but admits: "Tony's a very good player and it was only a matter of time before he regained the number 11 shirt."

Mark returned to the side, cast into the injured Gary Shaw's central striking role, for the Cup match against Northampton and popped up with the all-important goal.

He prefers to play on the wing but declares: "As long as I'm playing, I'm not bothered which position it is.

"Out on the wing, I've got freedom to run at players but I like scoring goals as well."

Indeed, the 68 he's notched for Villa's youth and reserve teams speak for themselves!

It's a different world in the First Division, of course, but Mark says: "I haven't noticed any pressure but the matches are tougher and there's a lot more thought because the standard of players is higher.

"My favourite is Spurs' Glenn Hoddle and I would rate Liverpool's Phil Neal as the most difficult opponent I've played against.

"Sammy Lee covers for him so well and it makes life very hard for the winger up against him."

For the time being, Mark looks no further than establishing himself in the Villa side.

"There has been talk of manager Tony Barton beginning to re-shape the team — especially with Mark Jones, Nigel Spink and myself emerging.

"Every manager has his own opinions so it's only natural he's going to bring his own players in.

"You can't argue with his decisions. When he drops someone there's always a reason for it and I believe he's a very good manager."

The feeling is obviously mutual ...

WOLVES ROAR BACK

The incredible story behind Wolves' rise from ruin to Second Division glory.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE FA CUP FOURTH ROUND

Behind the scenes stories from the round's most exciting ties

Plus

ALL THE WAY TO WEMBLEY with COVENTRY

FURPHY'S AMERICA

'George Best goes missing — but Bobby Moore comes to the rescue!'

WINGERS — THE NEW BREED

Meet the men who are thrilling the fans and bringing excitement back to the game.

NEXT WEEK

In colour

- NORMAN WHITESIDE
- JIMMY NICHOLL
- DANNY WALLACE
- NOTTS COUNTY

WIN

A free holiday at Bob Wilson's Goalkeeping School

Star writers

- Glenn Hoddle
- Paul Mariner
- Gordon Strachan

DANNY McGRAIN

The Celtic and Scotland star tells his own fascinating story.

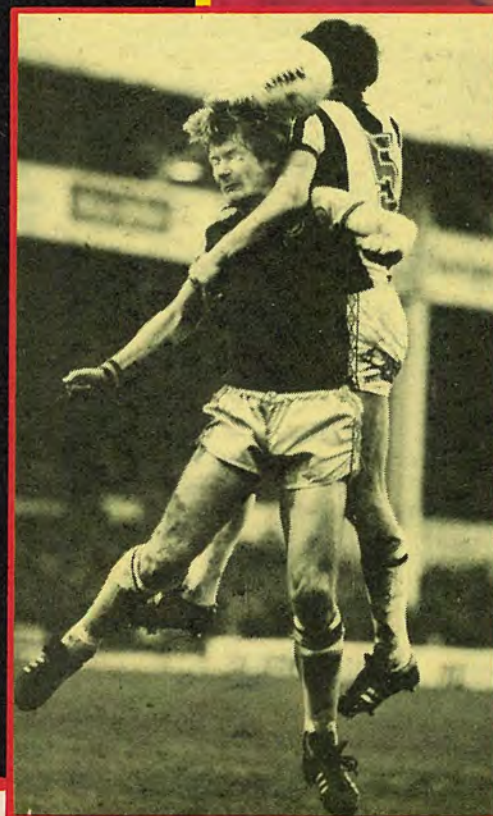
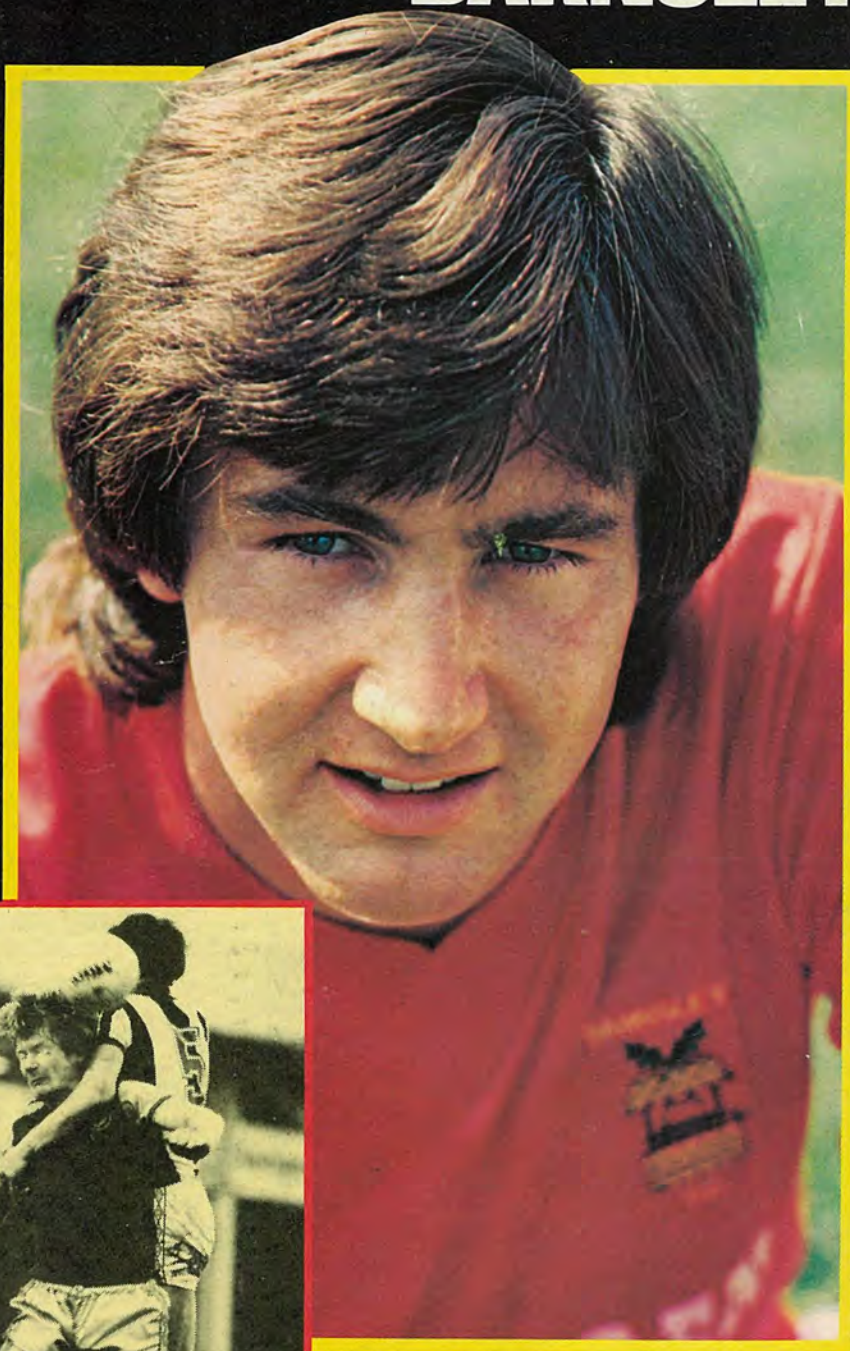
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Derrick PARKER

BARNESLEY

FULL NAME: Derrick Parker.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Wallsend, Tyne and Wear/Feb. 7, 1957.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 5ft 10ins/11½st.
CAR: Ford Escort.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Burnley and Southend.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: None.
CLUB NICKNAME: 'Arthur'.
WORST EVER INJURY: Torn ankle ligaments last season. I was out for seven months.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Man. Utd's Frank Stapleton for his consistent goalscoring ability.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Newcastle.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Spurs ace Ossie Ardiles — he's got great skills.
BEST ALL-TIME BRITISH XI: Banks (Eng), McGrain (Scot), Cooper (Eng), Bremner (Scot), McFarland, Hunter (Eng), Dalglish, Law (Scot), Charlton, Greaves (Eng), Best (N Ire).
BEST ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Banks, Facchetti (Italy), Cooper, Gerson (Brazil), Krol (Holland), Beckenbauer (W Ger), Tostao (Brazil), Greaves, Cruyff (Holland), Pele (Brazil), Best.
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Anfield.
BEST GOAL SCORED: Against Wrexham, 1981. Shot from 30 yards.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Pele for Brazil versus Czechoslovakia in 1970.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Ken McNaught (Aston Villa).
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Scoring four goals for Southend against Torquay in 1977.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Making my First Division debut for Burnley in 1975 against Middlesbrough.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Being dropped for a cup-tie against Middlesbrough in 1981.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Most sports.
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Having a quiet night in.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Smoking, drunk women and mad dogs.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: 'Not The Nine O'Clock News'.
TV SHOW YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: Party political broadcasts.
FAVOURITE READING: I don't read many books.
FAVOURITE POP STAR: Paul McCartney.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Tea.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Bermuda.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Dustin Hoffman/Susan George.
BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: Midnight Express.
BEST FRIEND: I have several.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: No-one in particular.
WHAT YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL: Travelling, injuries and bad referees.
SUPERSTITIONS: Quite a few.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Cornflakes.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To do well in whatever I do.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To become a consistent goalscorer.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: No plans yet.
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Winston Campbell (Barnsley). He must be good — he took my place earlier this season.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Kenny Everett.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Work hard and keep fit.



Left: Derrick Parker's most difficult opponent — Aston Villa centre half Ken McNaught.

Derrick Parker